Community Issues Report

FIRST QUARTER 2007

Meredith Corporation
WHNS FOX Carolina

04/1/07

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COMMUNITY ISSUES 1/1/07 – 3/31/07

Consumer, Health & Safety

An interest in knowing about events that impact our daily lives. A need for information about how to be wise shoppers of goods and services and how to live healthy and safe lives.

Crime

A need to know about crime and law enforcement activities and a concern for personal safety.

Education

A concern abut the money and skills needed to improve schools and an interest in improving student's quality of education.

Environment

A concern for how the environment is affected by human activity.

Government

An interest in how government affects our personal lives

Jobs/Economy/Growth

An interest in the local and national economic outlook and the impact growth has on our communities

Quality of Life

An interest in things that improve one's satisfaction with life.

The following pages list representative samples of program segments from The Ten O'clock Newscast, The News at 6:30 Newscast and The Morning Newscast during this quarter that respond to our ascertained issues. Each segment was 20 seconds to 3 minutes in length (except as otherwise reported).

The following pages also identify issue-responsive episodes of programs, which are listed under the appropriate issue.

WHNS also broadcasts public service announcements, news and weather cut-ins as needed to inform local community of breaking news and emergencies.

Attachments

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Consumer, Health & Safety

PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED FIRST QUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: CONSUMER, HEALTH & SAFETY

<u>DATE</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

Saturdays 6:30am TODAY'S HOMEOWNER

(airs weekly)

DECRIPTION: A half-hour weekly television show that features information on how to maintain and improve your home, both inside and out. The approach to home improvement helps everyone from the experienced do-it-yourselfer to the first time homeowner. Projects are taken from start to finish in each weekly episode. (30:00)

January 2, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 2, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The state health department hopes an increase in the number of cases of the flu will prompt more people to get flu shots. The Department of Health and Environmental Control says South Carolina currently has plenty of flu vaccine, unlike the last two years when heavy demand and late shipments created problems. Nick Davidson with D-HEC says officials have seen a sharp drop in the number of people at their clinics in the Lowcountry. Davidson says more than half of the 67-hundred vaccines ordered for Beaufort, Jasper, Hampton and Colleton counties have --not-- been used. Some of D-HEC's regional officials have even sent unused vaccine back to Columbia in case other areas need it. Spokesman Thom Berry says it's too early to say whether the state ordered too much vaccine.

January 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 5, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

It's bad for your health, and now it's bad for your wallet. If police catch you smoking in or nearby most businesses in Greenville, you can get a \$50 ticket, but that doesn't mean smoking is banned completely. Walt Gerald who lives in Greenville said, "I've heard a lot different stuff in the news, so I'm not really sure what the actual law is right now." Well, the law makes it illegal to do what we caught one man doing. He was smoking right outside of a city coffee shop, had he walked just a few feet away he would've been in the clear. Mike Hoffman, a smoker, said, "Here it is totally confusing! "Smokers must stand at least ten feet away from any business where smoking is prohibited. The rule though doesn't apply to tobacco shops where people can still smoke inside and right outside the store. Paolo Varvaro, owner of Halfway to Habana says, "Many, many, many people are confused. A lot of people think they're not allowed to smoke in the city limits, which is not true. "It's also perfectly legal to smoke while you walk, and so far Greenville City Police say no one's been ticketed for breaking the ban- yet. City police say since the law is so new they're letting people off with a warning. The city also says they will prohibit smoking at downtown festivals like Downtown Alive, but they are looking at having designated smoking areas.

January 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 19, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Shoppers are likely to feel the sting of California's cold snap in the weeks ahead. Prices are going up after subfreezing temperatures ruined up to an estimated three-fourths of California's citrus crop. One industry official says some crops were harvested before the freeze struck, so the market won't "dry up suddenly." But the limited supply may force growers to import fruit from other countries. Other produce, such as strawberries, avocados and fresh-cut flowers, also is affected. Labor leaders say the cold snap could cost thousands of field and packing-house workers their jobs. Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger is asking the federal government for disaster aid.

January 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 23, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Pennsylvania and 29 other states, including South Carolina, have reached an eight (m) million dollar settlement with Bayer Corporation. The settlement was made over allegations the drug maker failed to adequately warn consumers about risks associated with a cholesterol-reducing drug. Pennsylvania Attorney General Tom Corbett says the company allegedly learned after introducing Baycol in the U-S in May 1998 that the drug posed significantly greater health risks than other similar drugs. Cobertt says Bayer informed the U-S food and Drug Administration about Baycol's higher risks, but did --not-- sufficiently warn consumers and doctors about potential problems.

January 30, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 30, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Coronary Heart Disease is the number one killer among men and women these days. Doctor Greg San, a cardiologist at Saint Francis Hospital in Greenville, says research shows men get it earlier than women but no one knows why. While heart disease maybe the top killer of American men and women- it doesn't have to be! Doctor San says there are several steps you can take to prevent it.1-Know your family history 2-Know your body -Lower your cholesterol and blood pressure. 4-Avoid Stress and getting angry 5-Eat right and exercise. 6-Establish a good relationship with a licensed physician. For more information on Heart Health and recipes that are good for you and to eat check out the associated links.

February 1, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 1, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The scene is beautiful. Snow frosted yards with flakes that cover rooftops, and make neighborhoods look like postcards. The mix of snow, sleet and ice can be deceiving, and when a winter storm hits, some people aren't ready. What you need to survive could be right at home. "People have more of the ingredients for a disaster supply kit in their home then what they realize," said Brian Scoles, a spokesperson with the Upstate Chapter of the Red Cross. He says it doesn't have to cost a lot of money to create a kit. "Things like towels, paper products, non-perishable food items and cans," said Scoles. The kits, which should be used during emergency situations like an ice storm or a power outage, should already be prepared and easily accessible for families. "For example, if the power goes out, you will already have a flashlight, a radio, or even a battery operated television," said Scoles. You can buy a kit already prepared from the Red Cross, or package one yourself. The goal is to enjoy the winter weather when it comes without getting caught unprepared.

February 1, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 1, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

At a quick glance, you'd never know that snow covered the upstate, but a look up close you can still some patches of snow and ice, especially on our roads. Driver Mac Carpenter said, "They're not too bad. Wasn't bad at all." Another driver Jessie Willey said, "If it starts raining, and the temperature gets lower we might have some slick spots." Many drivers in the upstate found themselves in a bad spot, especially in Spartanburg County. Here's a breakdown of accidents on Thursday by county: Anderson County there were 42 accidents; Greenville County there were 42; accidents Pickens and Oconee Counties there were 20 accidents; Spartanburg County had the most, at 66 accidents. That's the total of 170 wrecks. That's more than double the average. As the snow became less and less, not everyone we spoke to was happy to see it go. Driver April Terry said, "I like it. I hope that it snows more today. "The South Carolina Highway Patrol says with all of these accidents, none of the injuries were life threatening.

February 2, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 2, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

"Everybody just came out, and bought like it wasn't going to be a tomorrow," said Walter Lyles, a vendor for Frito-lay. It was time to recuperate from the storm of people buying bread, milk and all the winter fixings at BI-LO on Thursday afternoon. Wednesday, the store shelves were left empty after shoppers hit the aisles to stock up. Now, it's the vendors who are hitting the aisles trying to re-fill the shelves. "I started at 4:30, and I've been going every since," said Lyles. Cashiers say just as soon as store shelves are re-stocked customers come swarming into empty them. "Today has been the same thing its been busy all day non-stop with customers," said Amy Goodspeed, BI-LO Cashier. "Everybody freaks out when it starts to get cold outside and business rally picks up allot," said John Kennedy, BI-LO Produce. Barbara Franklin is one shopper who's braved slushy roads trying to buy whatever is left. "I did not do what all good South Carolinians are supposed do and that is stock up before the storm. I found my cupboard bear in several places. So, I had to come out," said Franklin.

February 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 5, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Little Debbie Nutty Bars are being recalled from North Carolina and three other states because metal may be in an ingredient. According to Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Tommy Irvin, McKee Foods -- based in Collegedale, Tennessee -- said the products were put in vending machines (last Thursday and Friday) on February 1st and February 2nd in Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina and Virginia. Irvin says the company has asked that consumers who have purchased products identified with the codes in the recall to contact McKee Foods at (800) 522-4499 for information and a full refund. (According to the news release, the Nutty Bars are in the following retail packages _ 12-ounce guaranteed cartons, (12 bars, twin wrapped) with these carton-end codes: guaranteed fresh MAR 31 2007, 01302091 or guaranteed fresh APR 01 2007, 01312091; 25.2 oz. cartons, (24 bars, twin wrapped) with these carton-end codes: guaranteed fresh MAR 31 2007, 01302102; and 3 oz. single-serve packages (2 bars, twin wrapped) with this code: sell by APR 01 2007, 01312101.)

February 7, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 7, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Fellow officers and business owners congratulated Greenville's newest top cop after a press conference on Wednesday morning. Kentucky's own Terri Wilfong found out she's taking over Willie Johnson's job on March 31st. Wilfong said, "This is a dream come true, I'm excited to be here. "City Manager Jim Bourey says it was a hard decision to narrow it down to one. Five candidates were in the running, but Bourey says they didn't have what Wilfong did. Bourey said, "She really had the full package- been on the street as an officer, has high level management skills work and leadership level and outstanding communicator." Even though, Wilfong is the first female chief in Greenville. She says that's not what taking the job is all about. Wilfong said, "I don't look at it as gender, but as putting my best foot forward and Greenville's going to be a great place

to live and work. I don't look at it as a job but as a career." A career her husband Ryan Wilfong is also excited about. He's a patrol officer for the Louisville Police Department. Ryan said, "I like the town a lot I like what I saw, we are very excited about becoming Greenville residents." One thing the new chief says she's going to concentrate on is the community. Wilfong said, "I'm going to be out, go to community meetings talk to citizens about concerns and expectations it's police department meeting the needs." Meeting the needs of the public is what Wilfong says she plans to do. Wilfong has three kids and her oldest is a police officer as well. Terri has 26 years experience in law enforcement.

February 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 16, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Operation Jump Start is the securing of the United States southern-most border. South Carolina National Guard Soldiers are supporting this mission in several mission areas, which include operations, air support, ground transportation, command and control, base operations and ports of entry augmentation. The exercise will last from February to May and will involve up to 2,000 South Carolina National Guard Soldiers. Not all 2,000 Soldiers will be participating at the same time. Units or portions of units will be rotating in two or three week intervals along the Arizona-Mexico border beginning this weekend. There will be two flights out of McEntire Joint National Guard Base on Sunday, February 18.

February 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 16, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The shelves are empty where Peter Pan peanut butter once sat. Bi-Lo is sending them all back to the manufacturer after news of a Salmonella outbreak. "I don't know much about the situation. I just know I'm not going to use it right now. I'm going to throw it away when I get home," said Nina Atkinson, one grocery shopper. This particular recall just adds to the list of recent food borne illness outbreaks. Now some people are questioning food safety. Find out what you should do if you have tainted peanut butter; Get answers to common questions about salmonella; Read the FDA's statement about the peanut butter recall. "It's kind of scary sometimes when you think about it, because there was an outbreak of salmonella not too long ago too. It gets you wondering," said Broam Eargle, another grocery shopper. It may get you wondering, but physicians say there's not necessarily an increase in food borne illness, rather, there's better technology to pinpoint what otherwise would have gone undetected. "We have better techniques at detecting food borne illness, and we are probably in the safest era than we have ever been in for food safety when we think of the guidelines," said Dr. Kevin Polly, an E.R. physician. Even still, some customers are hoping detection works before manufacturers put food on grocery store shelves. "When you buy stuff from a grocery store you expect a bit more, I guess," said Eargle.

February 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 19, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Carolina Culinary Food, a South Carolina company, is recalling more than 52-thousand pounds of Oscar Mayer ready to eat chicken breast strips with rib meat that may be contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes. The U-S Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service made the announcement today. Food scientists with the Georgia Department of Agriculture found contamination in a six-ounce packaged sample marked as grilled fully cooked and ready to eat with a code use by April 19th. The nationwide recall affects all six-ounce packages of "Oscar Mayer/Louis Rich chicken breast strips with rib meat, grilled, fully cooked, ready to eat" that bear the establishment number "P-19676" inside the U-S-D-A mark of inspection on the front of the package. On the back of each package is a "Use by" date of "19 Apr 2007." Food so contaminated can cause listeriosis, an uncommon but potentially fatal disease. Listeriosis can cause high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and nausea. Listeriosis can also cause miscarriages and stillbirths, as well as serious and sometimes fatal infections to infants, the elderly and those with weakened immune systems such as persons with chronic diseases or taking chemotherapy for cancer. The federal agency says it has received NO reports of illnesses associated with eating the product. Consumers with questions about the recall should contact Kraft Consumer Response at 800-871-7117.

February 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 21, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

BJ's Wholesale Club is recalling packages of Wellsley Farms Fresh Mushrooms after a routine inspection revealed the possible presence of the deadly bacteria e-coli. The company says the recall affects mushrooms purchased between February 11 and February 19 of this year. BJ's says it hasn't received any reports of illnesses, but it's still advising customers against consuming the mushrooms. The wholesaler says the mushrooms can be returned for a full refund. Customers can call 1-800-BJS-CLUB if they have any questions.

March 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 5, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Twelve people have been killed on Anderson County roads since January 1. That's a number Anderson County Coroner, Greg Shore, said is scary, "Right now we are leading the state in a number we don't want to have nothing to do with." The latest deadly wreck happened Sunday morning along Whitehall Road, where a 1992 Honda was completely split in two. Randall Mulkey, who works for Highway 24 Towing, said, "It's one of the worst wrecks I've ever seen- a car come apart." That accident marks the twelfth in Anderson County, but it was just one of two deadly wrecks this weekend. On Friday, a 17-year-old Pendleton High School student hydroplaned along Lafrance Road before overturning in a ditch. Chelsea Marie Parsons was killed in the wreck. Parson's friends spray painted messages in remembrance of the teenager near the crash site. However, the messages should also serve as a reminder of how dangerous the roadways can be for teenagers. Coroner Shore said, "Of the dozen fatal car crashes more than half of them have been young teenagers." However, it's not just people behind the wheel, who are in danger. Coroner Shore said 20-percent of the traffic deaths have been pedestrians hit. Shore said the numbers are way to high for this time of the year. "Traffic fatalities usually happen in the summer time and holiday, but the pace we're on now scares me," Shore said. Coroner Shore said there are plans in the making to beef up patrol on Anderson County roads, to try, and get a grip on this growing problem. He did make clear, this has to be a community effort, and law enforcement can't be looked at as the cure all.

March 6, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 6, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

If you drive along Laurens Road in Greenville also known as the "Motor Mile," you know there are car dealerships just about on every corner. However, when you see a sign like "Payless" it could make you pump your brakes, and pull in. That is exactly what Larry Anderson did. "The car we were driving, we were paying on, they said they would pay it off," said Anderson. It sounded like a great deal, he also says the owner, Tim Yarger, told him he would work with him on his new car payment. "He says we'll help you for the first six months, and then after that you come back and we'll refinance, but that was just a bunch of hype," said Anderson. Anderson says it never happened. He says the paper work shows the trade-in was paid-off, but he says it wasn't. "Because of the deception, we found ourselves trying to pay on two cars and that was just impossible," said Anderson. He says they never refinanced his new car either. Now, the lot is empty, there aren't any cars, the door is locked and the inside of the shop is cleared out. "When the company has problems, the floor plan company has no other option but to come in and take possession of the vehicles that are left to go against the loan," said Kathy Barrett, the Executive Director with the Better Business Bureau. Barrett has a stack of complaints as thick as a phone book. "In most cases the company doesn't have the trade-in either, it has already been sold," said Barrett. Now, some customers are left with a mess, no car and a dirty deal they say that damaged their credit. "We didn't ask for this, but that's what happened," said Anderson. SLED investigated the owners last year and that case is closed. However, administrators with the BBB say they have nearly 50 cases like the Anderson's, and nearly 300 inquires about the business.

March 7, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 7, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

It's called "Mom's Daycare," and up until this week, three-month-old Cameran Smith spent most of his days there. Cameran is Tikeeta Wallace's youngest child, and for the past two months while Wallace was at work Cameran stayed at Mom's Daycare owned by Janie Gillespie. However, on Tuesday Wallace say's Cameran was left alone. When she showed up to pick up her baby, she noticed Gillespie's car was gone. Wallace knocked, but no one answered. Tikeeta Wallace said, "I was going maybe she just took him maybe she think I'm not getting off work until eight maybe she took him." However, Wallace says she felt something just wasn't right. As she walked around the house, she looked in the window of the nursery to see if anyone was home. A decision that was about to send her into a panic. "I tried to look in but I couldn't see, and I heard a whining sound," Wallace said. Wallace said she ran around the back of the house and knocked, and when she did, the door slung open. She says the door was unlocked. Wallace was about to find out the crying she heard from outside was coming from her baby. "When I seen him in the crib I just busted out crying because I'm thinking a fire you know, the blanket could have smothered him, he could have choked," Wallace said. Investigators say Wallace's three month old son was left alone, doors unlocked, and Wallace say's Cameran's blanket was pulled over his head. So where was Janie Gillespie, the woman who was supposed to be watching Cameran? According to a police report, she went to the bank and Blockbuster to get a movie for two other kids. We tried to ask Gillespie what happened, but all she said was "no comment." Tikeeta Williams says "no comment" doesn't cut it. "What really happens in that daycare center when I leave," Wallace asked.

March 8, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 8, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Three-dollar gas is back -- in California, Hawaii and now New York. At least one station in the New York City area is selling gasoline for more than three dollars a gallon this morning. Regular at the Citgo station is going for three-oh-six. This follows gas spiking back above three dollars in parts of California and Hawaii. As crude oil prices hold steady around 62 dollars a barrel, analysts say drivers should expect more gas price hikes with the approach of the spring and summer driving season. Nationally, Triple-A tracks regular at an average two-50 a gallon -- up more than 30 cents in the past month.

March 12, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 12, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The state health department says it is investigating a puzzling number of gall bladder surgeries among teens in the rural town of Whitmire. About a dozen Department of Health and Environmental Control physicians and officials have been looking into the complaints that dozens of youngsters have had surgery to remove their gall bladders over the past several years. They're looking at a number of factors like diet, lifestyle, the environment, water quality and health care. D-HEC says it is planning to hold a meeting in Whitmire next week. The gallbladder stores and concentrates the bile produced in the liver --not-immediately needed for digestion.

March 13, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 13, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

New hope today for women with advanced breast cancer. The Food and Drug Administration has approved a new drug from Glaxo-Smith-Kline. It's a pill called Tykerb. It's meant to be taken in conjunction with a chemotherapy drug. It's designed for women who have received prior treatment with the intravenous drug Herceptin and some types of cancer drugs (taxanes and anthracyclines). A study published last year showed that Tykerb in combination with the chemotherapy drug (Xeloda) delayed tumor growth for an average of eight and a-half months -- about twice as long as chemotherapy alone.

March 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 15, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A company in Alpharetta says a heart disease drug it is developing with AstraZeneca did NOT meet its primary goal in a large, late-stage clinical trial, but that it will continue its deployment. Shares of AtheroGenics plummeted nearly 60 percent in premarket trading while AstaZeneca's shares fell. The aim of the study was to compare the effect of AtheroGenics' A-G-I-1067 drug to placebo in patients with heart disease on the time to first incidence of a composite of major adverse cardiovascular events. That includes resuscitated cardiac arrest, heart attacks, stroke, need for coronary revascularization and hospitalization for unstable angina. AtheroGenics will continue work on the drug, based on positive results in reducing events such as cardiovascular death, heart attack and stroke, as well as improving several key diabetes parameters. The company says it will review the data to prepare for discussion with the U-S Food and Drug Administration on how to proceed. AstraZeneca has 45 days to decide whether to continue the collaboration. Details of the study will be released at American College of Cardiology meeting in New Orleans on March 27th. Shares of AtheroGenics tumbled four dollars and 84 cents -- or 57-point-34 percent -- to three dollars and 40 cents in pre-market electronic trading. AstraZeneca shares dropped one-point-eight percent 54 dollars and 95 cents on the London Stock Exchange. AstraZeneca has been working to shore up its pipeline after a number of its experimental drugs failed in late-stage clinical trials.

March 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 16, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Twice as many heart attack victims would live if they received only chest compressions - and not mouth-to-mouth ventilation-because people fear contracting infectious disease during CPR, a new study from Japan says. Dr. Ken Nagao of the Surugadai Nihon University Hospital in Tokyo conducted a study on 4,068 adult patients who had a heart attack in front of witnesses, and then interviewed them, according to a report in the St. Petersburg Times. As many as three quarters of bystanders said they declined to perform CPR because they feared infectious diseases. Seventy-two percent of patients had no CPR performed at all from bystanders, according to the Times. Eighteen percent received mouth-to-mouth ventilation and chest compressions and 11 percent received only chest compressions, according to the report. The study was published in the medical journal Lancet.

March 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 23, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

It's been the talk of Easley for the past few weeks. "I heard the person got an infection around her nail, and that she had passed away. I also heard she was a teacher at the local high school," said Pat Young, one Easley resident. Though DHEC has not confirmed rumors, officials have confirmed they are investigating two reported cases of necrotizing fasciitis better known as "flesh-eating bacteria." One Easley woman was laid to rest Thursday, close friends believe the bacteria claimed her life. DHEC is looking into a nail salon, church and restaurant as a point of contamination. "It's scary to the public since we don't know anything about it. It would be nice if they would let us know so we can be prepared and not frequent those places," said Shannon Ambercrombi. DHEC is not releasing much detail as they complete their investigation, but we found a wealth of information on the internet. According to the Centers for Disease Control website, early symptoms are fever, severe pain and swelling, also redness at the wound site. In many cases, it starts as a staph infection and escalates to. The CDC says the best way to stay healthy is to wash your hands frequently, keep wounds clean, and see a doctor if symptoms occur.

March 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 23, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Rodent poison has been found in pet food blamed for the deaths of at least 16 cats and dogs, a spokeswoman for the State Department of Agriculture and Markets said Friday. Spokeswoman Jessica Chittenden would not identify the chemical or its source beyond saying it was a rodent poison. State agriculture officials scheduled a news conference Friday afternoon to release laboratory findings from tests on the pet food conducted this week. The deaths led to a recall of 60 million cans and pouches of pet food produced by Menu Foods and sold throughout North America under 95 brand names. There have been reports of kidney failure, some fatal, in pets that ate the recalled brands. The company has confirmed the deaths of 15 cats and one dog. Menu Foods last week recalled "cuts and gravy" style dog and cat food. The recall sparked concern among pet owners across North America. It includes food sold under store brands carried by Wal-Mart, Kroger, Safeway and other large retailers, as well as private labels such as Iams, Nutro and Eukanuba.

March 26, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 26, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Gas prices are on everybody's mind as they keep going up. According to the Lundberg Survey, they've gone up 5 1/2 cents nationwide. Greenville Resident Jimmy Eche says, "I have to go to work and then I got to come by and pick them up you have to spend more money and more money you don't have a choice." Jimmy and his family only have one car, so it makes it even harder to save money. He spends about \$20 every other day on gas. But, he isn't the only one. Greenville Resident David McMaster says, "I pay about 55 dollars a week, its really hitting me pretty good as they keep going up, I'm really feeling the effects of it." That's because David drives an hour to work everyday. So, he's hoping for relief sometime soon. There is good news - if crude oil prices don't jump and refineries aren't threatened by accidents or fires, prices could come down as soon as mid April. David says, "it's really hitting me hard, so that would be great if they came down a little bit." Greenville Resident Tony Salernos says, "I wish they would come down to \$1.99 like it was when I first moved to Greenville, now it's \$2.38, everywhere it seems to be \$2.38 now." Tony saves money by driving this 4 cylinder car. He says he pays only eight bucks a week. In a few weeks, everyone's hoping those gas prices will help us all breath a sigh of relief.

March 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 28, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

"You really have to feel sorry for the victims," said Lt. Mike Gambrell from the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. So far, there are 56 victims- all of them say they were duped by Payless Auto after buying a car. Here's how police say it worked. An unsuspecting customer trades in their car for a new one. Payless Auto says they'll pay off the trade in. The problem is that never happens. "It was supposed to have been paid for, but I kept getting statements from the lender," said Thomas McCormick, one victim. Five months later, the lot was closed and the cars were gone. McCormick discovered his trade-in was never paid for, and now he's stuck paying for that car and his new car. Police say they have arrested the people responsible for the fraud. "These are the beginning of the charges to come. We have arrested the president, vice president, and secretary of the company," said Lt. Gambrell. Arnold Yarger, Tim Yarger, and Virginia Yarger face ten charges. So far they include breach of trust and failure to follow through with the highway department. Though their arrests won't repair the blemish on McCormick's credit, the news brings some sense of justice served. "I'm glad they caught them, and I think they should be dealt with accordingly because they scammed a lot of people."

March 29, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 30, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Finally, there's good news for some people who say they were scammed by Payless Auto Sales- there is a way to get the title for their car. Police arrested the owners of the dealership- Arnold, Timothy and Virginia Yarger- on Wednesday. Officers say the three stuck buyers with paying for both their new cars and the cars they traded in. In many cases, police say customers never even got the title to their new cars. Thursday, an attorney for one of the lenders has come forward to offer up those titles. He says there are at least 50 customers who were scammed. Ben Lister, the attorney representing the lender, said, "Come fill out the paper work, and get the registration they need so they can get their tags. All of the titles are here and we'll be able to do that." People who need to get their titles can contact Lister directly at 864-242-9000.

Attachments

Crime

PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED FIRST QUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: CRIME

<u>DATE</u> <u>TIME</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

Saturdays 8:00pm COPS Saturdays 8:30pm COPS

(airs weekly)

Monday – Friday 2:00pm COPS Monday – Friday 2:30pm COPS

DESCRIPTION: COPS follows law enforcement officers as they answer calls and deal with the subjects and victims involved in the complaints and crimes. (30:00)

Saturdays 9:00pm AMERICA'S MOST WANTED

(airs weekly)

DESCRIPTION: AMERICA'S MOST WANTED is hosted by John Walsh. The show profiles fugitives and wanted criminals who are being sought by federal, state, or local authorities. The program gives viewers a phone number to call to provide information. (60:00)

Saturdays 2:30am (Jan.) MISSING

(airs weekly) 2:00am (Feb./Mar.)

DESCRIPTION: Missing is a weekly half-hour reality series featuring actual cases of missing individuals, both adult and juvenile, from across the United States. (30:00)

Monday – Sunday 10:00 pm FOX CAROLINA'S MOST WANTED

Monday – Friday 5:00a-9:00am

DESCRIPTION: The FOX Carolina's Most Wanted airs during the Ten O'clock News on various nights Monday thru Sunday and The Morning News Monday thru Friday. Each segment profiles locally wanted criminals and gives viewers a phone number to call to provide information. Each segment is 45 seconds.

January 3, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 3, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description: A 911 call Tuesday night just after 11 o'clock, forced cops to surround a house on Underwood Road in Campobello. As blue lights flashed outside, inside the scene is described as brutal. Detectives found Erica Horton dead-stabbed in the head and neck, and lying near a bedroom in the back of the house. "I slipped on my shoes and walked to the edge of my driveway and that's when I realized something was wrong. I saw an ambulance and knew something happened," said Angelica Blackwell, a neighbor. Blackwell lives across the street from the Hortons. She says loud barking dogs woke her up. "I looked out my front door and I saw the police and they blocked off the road," said Blackwell. By daylight, the scene looked a little different. No crime scene tape, no blue lights or cops. Just an empty house with a crime watcher's sign outside, but all the commotion is still a haunting memory for Angelica Blackwell. "If the situation gets that bad, it is just best to try to separate or reconcile the relationship or maybe get counseling because violence should be the last option," sad Blackwell. Detectives say Erica and Larry Horton had problems during their marriage, and cops say the two separated back in 2005, but recently moved back in together. Investigators say Larry Horton told them Erica was going to leave him and take their two little girls with her, a two year-old and four year-old. The girls were not home during the time of the murder, they were staying with relatives. Horton is being held at the Spartanburg County Jail. This is Spartanburg County's first murder of the year.

January 4, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 4, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The doors are closed, and some employees inside the Fuddruckers in Anderson County are stunned after someone shot a manager in his stomach and his thigh. It happened inside the restaurant during an attempted armed robbery Tuesday night. Detectives came to the scene to collect evidence, and to search for the shooter. "Our culture is based on who has the biggest guns, and if you don't have something you take it," said Jeremy Morris, a customer. Through the night and into the day the investigation continued, but instead of cops in the parking lot there are customers. "It doesn't matter where you're at something can happen at anytime," said Morris. So, he isn't surprised that one of his favorite eating spots turned into a crime scene. "Everyone has a threat of danger," said Morris. Detectives say a man wearing a bandana came through a back door, propped open by a broom. They say the shooter demanded money, but the manager thought it was all a joke, and tried to take the mask off and that's when he got shot. "Our detectives have made four arrests of subjects that we have identified as having conspired together to commit this heinous crime," said Anderson County Sheriff, David Crenshaw. Cops arrested Delansia France, Derrick Harris, Brooklyn Hill and Jerry Whitfield for the crime. This isn't Whitfield's first arrest. In the past, cops charged him with shooting inside a building, and he's now on probation for that crime. "We wanted to try and get our hands on him before he skipped town," said Sheriff Crenshaw. We're told Brooklyn Hill and Jeremy Whitfield worked at Fuddruckers, and detectives believe that Derrick Harris is the shooter. Despite the scene of cops and yellow tape, the shooting won't stop Jeremy Morris from eating at Fuddruckers. "It can happen, so why worry about dying when you can focus on living," said Morris. The manager is recovering from those gun shot wounds and is expected to alright. The owner of Fuddruckers in Anderson County says he is looking into other security measures to make sure employees and customers stay safe.

January 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 16, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A Spartanburg County community is upset after being hit by vandals. During the wee hours of Monday morning, Battleground Road was under siege. Rachel Ronson said, "It's my 40th birthday present, so it was very upsetting." Ronson called FOX Carolina after someone spray-painted obscenities all over her brand new Mustang. Luckily, she and her daughter were able to wash all the words away, but the incident has left its mark. Ronson said, "We don't use this kind of profanity in my house. It's really bad. I thought it was an isolated incident. I thought it was just my vehicles." The vandals hit also almost every parked car along Battleground Road. Neighbors also woke up to find their mailboxes painted with Satanic signs. The vandals wrote obscenities on a new home as well. Obscenities also covered an 18-wheeler, which cost the driver thousands of dollars in damages. Daniel Hughes said, "I didn't know what to think at first." Daniel and his wife Elaine think nearby kids may be to blame. Until the vandals are caught, neighbors say all they can do is watch out for each other. Ronson said, "It was traumatizing. I can't understand. Why me?" So far deputies have not arrested anyone in this case.

January 17, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 17, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The principal at Ware Shoals High School lied to deputies investigating the school's cheerleading coach and was taken into custody at the school today. Fifty-nine-year-old Jane Blackwell is charged with obstruction of justice. Chief Deputy Mike Frederick says Blackwell tried to hinder the investigation of cheerleading coach Jill Moore. Moore was arrested last week for providing beer to students and contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Police say Blackwell wasn't directly involved in those incidents, but when investigators began asking questions, she told the cheerleading squad to keep quiet. Blackwell was arrested about 2 p-m after Greenwood County officers searched her office, taking two computers, calendars, notebooks and other items. A bail hearing was scheduled for this evening.

January 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 22, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

On Friday, we told you about an armed robbery at Haywood Mall, but now the alleged victim is behind bars. Kimberly Massey told investigators a man pulled a knife on her and her child, outside J.C. Penney's. She told police he cut her shirt, before robbing her. However, after investigating the alleged crime, police say Massey made the whole thing up. She's charged with filing a false police report.

January 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 23, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Accusations of sex, lies and scandals run rampant at one upstate high school. On Monday, deputies arrested the principal of Ware Shoals High School for allegedly covering up for the school's cheerleading coach. The coach is accused of giving alcohol to her cheerleaders, and a whole lot more. Last week, Greenwood county deputies arrested Jill Moore, the cheerleading coach at Ware Shoals High School for "moral offenses" involving some of her cheerleaders. On Monday, deputies also arrested Principal Jane Blackwell at the school. She's accused of knowing about the offenses and doing nothing about it. After her release from the detention center, Blackwell said, "I would just like to say that these charges are- I have not done anything wrong, and the evidence will prove that." Greenwood County deputies say Principal Blackwell is lying. They say she knew what was going on since the incidents began last summer. Sheriff Dan Wideman said, "You see it all over, California, New York, but you don't think Greenwood, and you don't think Ware Shoals. Shocker, without a doubt." FOX Carolina has learned some of the shocking details involving Moore, the cheerleading coach. According to FOX Carolina sources, Moore was dating a National Guard recruiter and was recruiting cheerleaders to party. In at least one incident, a 16-year-old student had sex and drank alcohol with another National Guardsman. Jessica Applewhite, a tenth grader at Ware Shoals High, said, "The kids are shocked about it. Some were crying today. I was really shocked to hear about it." FOX Carolina called the National Guard about this story, and they released the following statement: The South Carolina National Guard is working closely with the Greenwood County Sherriff's Department investigation of matters relating to alleged misconduct of certain Ware Shoals faculty and/or administration, as well as any related misconduct by any National Guard soldier. The South Carolina National Guard takes our relationship with local communities and schools very seriously. This is because not only are they the communities we serve, they are ultimately the source of our citizen soldiers. Because of this relationship with the schools and the communities and the recurring contact our Recruiting and Retention personnel have with local high schools they receive mandatory training on how to deal with situations such as these and given specific guidelines to follow both as professionals and as soldiers. We do not condone actions such as the ones alleged and we have opened our own military equivalent investigation into the matter in conjunction with the ongoing civil investigation." The South Carolina National Guardsmen allegedly involved have been placed on leave pending the outcome of the investigation. If the investigation determines that there was wrongdoing on the part of any member or members of the South Carolina National Guard, appropriate action will be taken up to and including court martial and separation from the Guard. Stay with FOX Carolina and foxcarolina.com as we continue to follow this story.

January 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 23, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A small exotic animal farm is part of a backyard on E. Old Mill Road in Travelers Rest. We're told there are lions, tigers and monkeys in cages housed in some sheds, and some birds too. It is where some young people go to feed animals, but now the owner, Walter Gresham, is accused of molesting a 15 year-old boy. "I'm totally shocked and I have no reason to be questioning anything about him," said David Meeks, Gresham's friend. David Meeks first met Gresham more than 15 years ago. He's also the Executive Director of Hollywild Animal Park where they once worked together. "Never ever would've given me any indication that he was nothing more than a good person," said Meeks. During Christmas, Gresham helped organize the Enchanted Deer Forest. He worked there with other employees of all ages. "As far as his work, I had no problems whatsoever with the work he did," said Meeks. However, a 15 year-old boy says one night at Gresham's house back in 2005, Gresham forced him to watch porn and performed oral sex on him. The boy's family spent a lot of time at the Gresham house during pool parties and other events. Last year, the boy told his mother he didn't want to go on camping trip with Gresham because he said he made him feel weird. "I never ever suspected or never saw anything that would've bothered me in anyway," said

Meeks. The 15 year-old's mother says her son blames himself. In an incident report she states, her son said his grandfather was sick because the victim was being punished because of what happened to him. Cops arrested Gresham and now he faces serious charges, but his long-time friend says everyone is innocent until proven guilty. "I'm hoping for the best for everybody," said Meeks. We also checked with code enforcement about those exotic animals. A Greenville County ordinance states it is legal for someone to own certain exotic animals if they have a proper permit or licenses and if those animals are housed properly.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The house on Dukeland Drive in Greenville County is up for sale and inside, for the most part, it looks empty. The lights are on, but no one is home. Cops raided the house after a 13 year-old-boy told them a family friend, Michael Murphy, raped him, and his brother who was 13 at the time. "I think it is a shame that a grown person would do that to a young child," said Crystal Chamblee. She and her children just moved to the neighborhood about a month ago. "I'm glad that he's out of the neighborhood," said Chamblee. Cops arrested him, and say Murphy raped the first boy back in 2004, and then sexually abused his brother in 2006. Inside the house, cops say they found more evidence. Investigators say they found disturbing CD's, pictures and video tapes of children performing sex acts. "Some of them are very graphic and even violent. It's hard for investigators because many of them have children, so it is hard," said Michael Hildebrand, Master Deputy with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. Detectives say they also found a homemade porn tape of Murphy raping one of the 13-year-old boys, and child porn on Murphy's computer. "They were going through his cars, his buildings and everything said Krystal Tillman, a neighbor. She lives across the street and has two children. She says the whole thing makes her sick. "You know, I think about when my kids are outside playing, maybe he was looking at them, it is just gross and I'm glad he's gone." However, she'll never forget what cops say happened at the home where Michael Murphy lived. Murphy faces several charges including 33 counts of second degree sexual exploitation of a minor, 2 counts of lewd act on a minor and criminal sexual conduct.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Mauldin Police Chief Bryan Turner says the Super 8 off West Butler Road in Mauldin was robbed around 8 PM Tuesday. Chief Turner says a man walked into the motel and asked a couple of questions and then left. He says the man returned a short time later, but this time had a gun and demanded money from the clerk. The man fled the motel on foot with an undisclosed amount of cash. This prompted a massive search along Taylor's Road. FOX Carolina was there as Mauldin police combed a wooded area searching for the suspect. The officers used search dogs trying to track the suspects scent. It was about an hour later when Chief Turner says a kid saw a man who fit the suspect's description hiding behind a tree off Fowler Circle. This prompted Mauldin police to set up a perimeter around the Fowler Circle area, which is just up the road from where the suspect robbed the Super 8. Greenville County deputies were called in along with K-9's to search the wooded area. The search was called off around 10:30 PM. Chief Turner describes the suspect as a light skinned black male, wearing a light gray hooded sweatshirt with red lettering on the front, and gray or dark colored pants. There were no injuries during the robbery. However, Chief Turner says the man was armed with a gun when he fled from the Super 8 and is considered dangerous. If you have any information on this robbery, or have seen someone matching this description call Mauldin Police at 864.289.8900.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

FOX Carolina has exclusive reaction from the family of the cheerleading coach at the center of the Ware Shoals scandal. Last week deputies arrested Jill Moore for "moral offenses" involving some of her cheerleaders. Then on Monday, deputies arrested Principal Jane Blackwell for covering it all up. It's become the talk of the town just about everywhere you go. Crystal Leovard who lives in Ware Shoals said, "I'm very shocked, I'm very upset. I can't believe it's happening in this town. This is a quiet calm town." Sources tell FOX Carolina that Moore, the married mother of two, was having a relationship with a National Guard recruiter. She then allegedly recruited cheerleaders to party with them, and another National Guardsman. During one of their alleged outings, sources say a 16-year-old cheerleader had sex and drank alcohol. Danielle Jefferson said, "I hope, by the grace of God, all of this will be over with. It's unbelievable." Jefferson worked at Ware Shoals High School and says the only

thing that surprises her is that this is all finally coming out. Lidia St. Mark asked, "So do you believe all the rumors?" Jefferson said, "Yes." Lidia asked, "How come you believe them?" Jefferson replied, "Just things I know in the past." Lidia said, "So this doesn't surprise you?" Jefferson said, "No, no, no." Deputies arrested Principal Jane Blackwell for knowing about the offenses, and doing nothing about it. Parents are now questioning Superintendent Fay Sprouse as well. Sprouse is a close friend and relative of Blackwell's, and that's not the only connection the board has to school employees. Moore's father is a Pastor and School board member Dr. Marcus Bishop. The scandal is also having a profound effect on Jill Moore's family as well. FOX Carolina received a letter from a family member that read: "I would like to say that the families involved in these incidents are good, Christian families. They are devastated by all of this. Ware Shoals is a good town, but even good town are not with their bad days." The National Guardsmen involved in this case have not been charged, but have been suspended pending further investigation.

January 26, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 26, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

New developments and exclusive reaction with a cheerleader in the Ware Shoals high School scandal. Greenwood County deputies arrested Jill Moore for "moral offenses" involving some of her cheerleaders. Then on Monday, deputies arrested Principal Jane Blackwell for trying to cover it all up. Less than two weeks ago, Jill Moore was a well respected cheerleading coach and a married mother of two small children. Now, she's a suspect in a criminal investigation, accused of giving alcohol to two of her cheerleaders and a whole lot more. A cheerleader at Ware Shoals High School said, "I never expected anything like this to ever happen." The cheerleader doesn't want to be identified because she's worried of what others may think. She said, "We've been at the police department all night and the news people are everywhere, schools hard." Deputies say the allegations against Moore involve two teenagers, and Moore's relationship with a national guardsman. According to sources close to the case, Moore was having an affair with a recruiter and had recruited two cheerleaders to party with them. In one incident, we're told a 16-year-old cheerleader had sex and drank alcohol at a motel room. Moore's lawyer responded to the allegations by saying, "She's the kind of person that wouldn't want to harm anyone at all. She's very fortunate to have a family that is totally committed to supporting her through this ordeal." Moore's father, Marcus Bishop, is also feeling the effects of the investigation. On Thursday, the school board member offered his resignation. People who live in Ware Shoals say there needs to be more changes to the school board. Mary Jane Harris said, "This has been going on for years, cover up and it just keeps getting pushed under the rug. Finally something has come out about the cheerleading coach. They need to start at the top and work all the way down." As for the cheerleaders at the center of it all, this cheerleader says all she wants is for things to go back the way they were. She said, "I wish it all would all blow over and people would just let it be."

February 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 5, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Three banks in three hours; that's how fast robbers moved through Greenville branches Friday. The first happened just before 1 PM at the Wachovia on Woodruff Road. Greenville County Deputies say a man walked in, implied he had a handgun and demanded money. "The suspect in one of the pictures has an emblem on the back pocket of the jean it looks like an Indian head we think that's distinctive," said Mike Hildebrand, from the Greenville County Sheriffs Office. A little over an hour later it was the Regions Bank on Haywood Road. "All I could hear him say was 'Hurry up! Hurry up," said a customer who stood just inches away from the robber. "He came up to the counter, and pulled out a black bag from his jacket. He said to give him all the hundreds out to the drawer," said one witness. Just 15 minutes later, Greenville Police say the same man robbed another bank- the Wachovia on South Main Street. Much like the first robbery, he implied he had a gun and then demanded money. Though there are similarities, police aren't sure if the first robbery and the last two are related. As for this customer she's thankful to be alive. "All kinds of things go through your mind like should I hurry up, and get done and walk out the front door. Then it is over just as quick as it started," said the customer.

February 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 20, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Detectives say a crime spree started on January 13, and now it is over. During that time, they say a burglar broke into seven businesses across Greenville County where he stole money and merchandise worth more than \$8,000. The machines are warmed up, and so are the employees at Continental Southern Industry in Greenville County, the crew makes plastic parts at the plant. However, there's been some more activity other than pushing plastic. "When I came to the office I heard a lot of banging and the plant was closed so I called 911," said Robert McGowan, the plant's president. Employees say an intruder seemed to keep finding his way inside. "We noticed where our door had been broken into, vending machines had been destroyed," said McGowan. Someone ripped into a soda machine and snatched the money. Investigators believe it is the work of Tony Mackey, and they say he broke into the plant more than once. Employees say he used a crow bar to smash both machines. "The time before last we came in he'd eaten two honey buns and we found and a half of a honey bun at the exit door where he escaped so we named him the honey bun bandit," said McGowan. Detectives say Mackey is responsible for hitting seven businesses throughout the county and they believe he also ripped off machines at the Poinsett Car Wash. The car wash has cameras and an alarm system, but somehow investigators say Tony Mackey managed to get what he wanted more money. Detectives say they busted him at one of his favorite spots, Continental Southern Industry as he tried to rob the place once again. Now the man who some people call the "honey bun bandit" will have to snatch his sweet treats in jail. Mackey faces as long list of charges which include burglary, larceny and malicious damage to property. Investigators say he caused \$27,000 worth of damage. He's in jail and his bond is more than \$320,000.

February 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 21, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Tuesday Asheville Police showed us just a small representation of the hundreds of guns they have recently confiscated. "What we see are hunting rifles, like this one that's been sawed off and made into a concealable weapon," said Capt. Tim Splain, from the Asheville Police Department. Along with it are high powered rifles that pierce bullet proof vests, machine guns, and pistols- all of them previously used to commit a crime. "It's more guns and cases than we can handle and that's our issue," said Splain. An issue that's made some residents feel like prisoners in their own home. "It's just not safe for anybody," said Sheila Young. She says she often hears gun fire outside of her Hillcrest Home. Being disabled all she can do is hope a stray bullet does not find its way inside. "I can't do anything but get on the floor and hope and pray," said Young. Many residents say they hope, and pray the gun activity will stop. "We are already fighting a war overseas why should we walk around with guns over here! It doesn't make sense," said Marcus Gray, an Asheville resident. Last year, Asheville Police say they saw about 100 more crimes committed with guns. That translates to a 21-percent increase. It's an increase police are working to curb. "Our D.A. is working hard to prosecute. The federal government is even helping. It just hasn't made a difference yet," said Splain.

February 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 21, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

It's never a surprise to see an officer on Interstate 85, but it can be shocking when you see twenty of them, not to mention a couple of helicopters. April Villasenor said, "Is there somebody I need to be watching for? Someone on the run, kidnapping or something?" April works at a Spinx station just off a Spartanburg County exit. She says all day long customers have been asking her one question after another, after another. She said, "Do you know what's going? It makes you wonder." When we asked the Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office what was going on, they said all of it is meant to crack down on criminal activity along I-85, which provoked even more questions from drivers we spoke to. Chris Duffy said, "How would they know that someone doing 62 miles an hour is a criminal? How do you define a criminal looking car?" You can get pulled over for things ranging from speeding to a broken taillight. As for when this is ending, deputies say it could end tomorrow it could end next week. As for it's happening, deputies couldn't really say, only calling the stops random. Driver Jeff Lynch said, "Every exit has a multitude of police cars from counties I never heard of, from cities I never heard of." Spartanburg County deputies say those counties, some of which are from Charleston, are assisting in the operation. Lynch said, "Is George Bush coming? Can we wave at Dick Cheney? What's the deal? That's all I want to know." Deputies tell FOX Carolina that by the end of the week, we'll all know a lot more about what this was all about.

February 26, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 26, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A Greenville business owner was murdered in his own store. Kitt Maddox was found dead inside his "Bedding and World Antiques" store by his own brother. Maddox and his father had run the Wade Hampton Boulevard business since 1976. On Thursday, somebody shot Maddox multiple times, and FOX Carolina's Cody Alcorn talked to Maddox's family and friends about the man they loved. A 1972 graduate of Wade Hampton High School, family members say Kitt Maddox was a man who enjoyed life to the fullest. Mark McCoy, a family spokesman, said "Kitt was a soft spoken man and kind and had many friends." Julie Maddox, Kitt's sister-in-law said he always had a smile on his face. In a recent photo taken of Kitt in France, you can see a man who friends say was a fighter. Ike Maddox, Kitt's brother, says Kitt had just battled and overcame prostate cancer and was ready to face the world again. Ike Maddox said, "His mood has been very positive, upbeat, looking forward to a happy life and ready to live without cancer." However, last Thursday, February 22, someone robbed Kitt Maddox of that right. Police say someone shot him multiple times inside his antique store along Wade Hampton Boulevard. Kitt's body was found by his brother, and Ike Maddox has a message he wasn't everyone to listen too. "Everyone should take the time to realize life is very short, and just take advantage of friendships and all that you have because you never know when life is going to end," said Ike. For Kitt Maddox family members say his life ended too soon. He leaves behind two teenage kids, who just recently saw their dad, overcome a battle with cancer. Family members of Kitt Maddox want to make sure everyone learns something from their tragedy. "We can only hope this tragedy serves as a reminder that life is short and that friendships should always be cherished and nurtured," said McCoy. Memorial Service and Condolences Information: Memorials can be made to the American Cancer Society at 154 Milestone Way, Greenville, SC 29615.; Condolences can be sent to the family by heading to this website www.thomasmcafee.com; Kitt Maddox's Memorial Service will be held Monday, February 26, 2007 at 10:30am at North side Untied Methodist Church.

February 27, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 27, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Greenville Police have arrested a man from Greer who they say is responsible for the murder of Christopher "Kit" Maddox, a Greenville businessman. Police say they arrested 46-year-old Joe Edward Gaillard around 2:30 Tuesday morning at his Nimbus Court home in Greer. Gaillard is charged with murder, armed robbery and possession of a weapon during the commission of a crime. According to police, Gaillard has no criminal record. Maddox's family who attended the press conference where the arrest was announced said they were relieved to know someone is being held responsible. Last Thursday, Maddox's brother found him shot to death inside his Wade Hampton Boulevard antique shop. Gaillard is being held without bond at the Greenville County Detention Center.

February 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 28, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A Spartanburg County Sheriff's Deputy has died following a shootout during a traffic stop. It happened around 10 o'clock Tuesday night near Midway Park Drive in Spartanburg County. The deputy is 39-year-old, Kevin Earl Carper. Carper was a 12-year veteran of the force. Investigators say Carper tried to pull over Terry Lee Brooks. They say Brooks stopped his car, ran off and Carper chased after him. Detectives say the men struggled, and both shot each other during the confrontation. Both Carper and Brooks died at the hospital. Authorities say a woman who was in Brooks' car at the time is being questioned.

February 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 28, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

An upstate middle school teacher is accused of sexually abusing several students. Allenna Ward was a teacher at Bell Street Middle School in Laurens County. Administrators became aware of Ward's alleged activities when notes between her and students surfaced at the school. On and off for the past year, Clinton police say Allenna Ward has been having sexual relations with five young boys. Ward was an English teacher at Bell Street Middle School in Clinton, and all of her alleged victims are students. One eighth grader we spoke to told us this was the first he had heard about it. Marctavious Hill said, "It was shocking to me that a teacher would do that at our school, it's very surprising." In a press conference Wednesday, Chief of Clinton Police John Thomas told reporters he is also shocked and dismayed. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims and the families. It's very disturbing that this kind of thing is going on," said Thomas. According to police, Ward sexually abused the boys in various places throughout Clinton, the Bell Street Middle School; in a parked car; the Clinton Motel; behind the Clock Restaurant; the Laurens City Park. Chief Thomas said, "There could be more victims, more arrests, right now we don't know." We went to Ward's home to hear what her husband has to say about his wife's alleged actions. There we were met by her father-in-law who seemed very upset. FOX Carolina's Lidia St. Mark asked him, "Are you shocked about all of this?" He replied, "I'd like for you to leave please." In an emergency school board meeting, board members voted unanimously to fire Ward. Superintendent Dr. Laura Koskela said, "It's overwhelming for all of us, it's just so sad so many regrets that we have for our community." Ward has 11 charges against her ranging from criminal sexual conduct with a minor to performing a lewd act on a minor. If convicted and she receives the max, she could spend the rest of her life behind bars. Ward is being held on a \$110,000 bond.

March 4, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Early Saturday morning, a deputy with the Polk County Sheriff's Office tried to stop a vehicle that had been reported as a possible drunk driver. The vehicle didn't stop for the deputy near the intersection of I-26 and Highway 74, and the chase began. Later, both Tryon Police and Columbus Police joined in the chase. The suspected drunk driver traveled Highway 74 to Highway 9, and then began traveling south on Highway 9. The Polk County Sheriff's Office deployed stop-sticks at the intersection of Highway 9 South and Will Green Road. Captain J.S. Davis with the Polk County Sheriff's Office said, "It was at that intersection that the suspect's vehicle struck Sergeant R.G. Butler of the Polk County Sheriff's Office, who was at that time deploying stop sticks." The vehicle in question stopped a short time later on Highway 9 where 3 people were taken into custody. Sergeant Butler sustained substantial injuries from the impact and was treated by Polk County Emergency Medical Services before being flown by Regional One to Spartanburg Regional. At last check, Sergeant Butler was in the neurological unit at Spartanburg Regional. He has been joined there by his family and members of the sheriff's office. The incident remains under investigation by the North Carolina Highway Patrol, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and the Polk County Sheriff's Office. The three people have been charged. All three are underage, so no names will be released at this point. The two passengers were charged with underage consumption and have been released. Captain Davis said, "The driver faces a series of charges including assault with a deadly weapon on a government official." He is under a \$500,000 bond at the Polk County Detention Center. Captain Davis said, "Sheriff Chris Abril would like to express his thanks to those who have called in support of Sergeant Butler, and also extends his thanks to those who assisted Sergeant Butler early this morning: Polk County Rescue, Polk County EMS, Polk County First Responders, Mill Spring Fire Department, Green Creek Fire Department, and the flight crew from Regional One. He also expresses his thanks to our neighboring law enforcement agencies that have called and expressed concern and offers of help: Rutherford County Sheriff's Office, Henderson County Sheriff's Office, Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office, and the Campobello Police Department." "Our thoughts and prayers are with Sergeant Butler, his family, and his friends at this time," said Sheriff Abril via telephone from Spartanburg Region, "Those agencies who are investigating this incident have our full support and we will continue to serve the citizens of Polk County to the best of our abilities." Captain Davis tells us this is the worst an officer has been injured while on the job at the Polk County Sheriff's Office. Sergeant Butler has been with the sheriff's office since 2002, and is part of the K-9 unit for Polk County. Sergeant Butler's condition as of late Saturday night was critical condition. The teenager who investigators say hit Sergeant Butler will appear in court Monday morning.

March 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 5, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Employees at a Sally Beauty Supply store are still trying to settle their nerves after staring down the barrel of a gun Saturday night. One employee who wants to remain anonymous knows first hand. "I was working with one customer when he came in asking for hair grease," said the Sally Beauty Supply employee. After finding the perfect pomade the suspect pulled out a gun and demanded money from the register and safe. He also took drivers licenses from the employees and threatened to kill anyone who told police. "That's scary. A death threat, and he stole some hair grease and stole some money and that's three charges right off top and we don't even know anything," said Teresa Watt, of Hair Mania a nearby business. Witnesses describe the suspect as a "pretty boy bandit" and someone they never suspected would rob them. "He was dressed nice with brand new shoes on and a cell phone and everything, so I just never suspected him to rob me," said the Sally Beauty Supply employee. Each time the suspect robbed a store he escaped with cash and a can of hair grease. Police are also linking the so-called "Pretty Boy Bandit" to a robbery in Spartanburg at a Verizon Wireless store. They have not released a detailed description, but witnesses say one distinct feature was his wavy hair- no doubt from the jars of "wave control pomade" he stole along with the money.

March 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 5, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A restaurant bar is almost burned down, and its owner almost burned alive in what workers say is a hate crime. It happened on Main Street in Canton which is in Haywood County, North Carolina. Police say right now it's too soon to say whether this is a hate crime, but workers we spoke to say there's not a doubt in their minds. Early Monday morning, firefighters got a call about a fire, and a man trapped inside at 81 Main Street, a restaurant bar in downtown Canton. Police say the fire was set on purpose. Linda Holcombe one of the bartenders, said, "I love this town, but I know it has it problem." Holcombe and Manager Ernie Stamey came by to see the pub, which is located directly across the street from the city's police department. Stamey said, "Either a lot of nerve or stupidity or a combination of both." Linda and Ernie also spoke to the owner, the man trapped inside. We're told the owner came to the bar to do some paperwork around six o'clock Monday morning. Inside, he was met by two masked men armed with guns. The men then duct taped him to a chair, and set the place on fire. Holcombe said, "Not even money was mentioned, nothing to do with robbing the place it was a blatant, racial crime." Racial because Linda says the arsonists were white, and were making racial remarks about the owner who is Indonesian, the DJ who is black, and the diverse crowd the pub brings in. She said, "They did terrorize him- get a message across to him." Hours later and you can still smell the gas the arsonists poured all over the floor and you can see the cooking oil they poured all over the bar to burn this place down. However, their attempts were unsuccessful because the owner managed to free his arm that was duct taped to a chair and call 911. Linda and Ernie say the pub will re-open, and they're hoping someone watching this can help close this case. Linda said, "We're not going to let them run with our tails between our legs." If you have any information, call the Canton Police at 828-648-2376.

March 13, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 13, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Swing-sets and toys sit outside the house where Charles Montgomery lived. Deputies say while babysitting a friends child he sexually assaulted him. According to neighbors Montgomery recently rented a room in this house and was running a babysitting business inside. "They were from Pittsburgh and they just rolled into town. I have a daughter and I have talked to him but there were no red flags for me," says one neighbor. Many of the neighbors we spoke with wanted to remain anonymous but they say the rooms inside this house are rented on a weekly basis and the news comes as no surprise. "The renters are in and out and you can't let your children play around that because you don't know what will happen, "says one neighbor. Now some parents say they're keeping an even closer eye on their children. "It kind of concerns me. We had another sexual predator in the neighborhood and you just have to watch out for your kids," says Shayla Simpson, a parent.

March 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 15, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Students, partying, alcohol, and that's just the beginning. Two Newberry County educators are the ones in hot water, accused of supplying the booze. The two educators are both married. John Clark is an assistant principal at Newberry High School, and his wife Mary Clark is a teacher at Newberry Middle School. Wednesday, both turned themselves into police after being charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. It all happened during a party at their lake house last summer. The Clark's threw a get-together for their son who's in high school. "The allegations are there was a party held at their house last summer, and alcohol was served to minors," said Jerry Peace, solicitor. Jerry Peace says for five dollars several students from Newberry High were allowed to buy cups of beer, all while the Clark's had full knowledge of what was happening. "It's almost an epidemic now. We have had several cases over the last few months. It's just incredible," said Peace. Students at the high school say rumors about the John Clark have circulated for a while. "There were rumors about a lot of stuff, why he wasn't working at school anymore," said Kanisha Wright, a Newberry High student. "I heard he threw a party and sold some minors alcohol but that's about it," said Andrew Craine, a Newberry High student. Now, some parents say they are disappointed at yet another two teachers charged with criminal behavior. "I think they should have known better. He's in a position where he should have been a good roll model not selling beer to kids, because that's persuading them that they can go and drink beer," said Kesha Dominic, one parent. Both Mary and John Clark have been released from custody. They will have their day in court at the end of May where they could face up to three years if found guilty.

March 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

March 15, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Greer Police say Ronnie Sanders sped off to avoid a speeding ticket on Wednesday, but now officers are charging him with a long list of crimes. After speeding off on Highway 29 near Highway 101 in Greer, police say he crashed into a couple of cars and even carjacked a man. It started off as a quiet day on Highway 29 in Greer, but Wednesday afternoon it turned into complete chaos. At the center of it all was the driver behind the wheel of a red Honda Civic. Police say that driver is Ronnie Sanders. Corporal Scott Southern, "Extremely reckless, almost desperation, something. They're pretty desperate in something they've done." Corporal Southern says he tried to pull over Sanders for speeding. As he approached the suspect's Civic, he sped off and crashed into three cars. One of those cars belongs to Andrew Jackson. After the crash, Jackson said about his car, "A lot of damage. It's almost totaled." Mr. Jackson wasn't inside the green Camaro at the time. It was parked at Arby's, but another driver wasn't so lucky. Detectives say after Sanders crashed into the cars, he and his passenger carjacked a man at gunpoint. Officer Southern didn't have to go through a stack of mugs to put a name to the suspect's face. All he had to do was go through Sanders' wallet. Police found it in his red Civic. Southern said, "I knew it was him, picture ID, I could ID him very well."

March 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 15, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Detectives say the confession came straight from the shooter's mouth, and on the other end of the line was Debra Clark. She sounds frantic and out of control. *Dispatcher:* "Sheriff's 911, what's your emergency?" Caller: "Yeah, I just shot my husband." Dispatcher: "You just shot your husband?" "I heard about six shots," said Cissie Thompson. Thompson lives next door to Clark, and happened to be outside on her deck when the shots went off. "It sounded like it came from the middle of the house, inside the house, that's where I heard it. Then, it looked like he came out the door and that's where he fell, right there," said Thompson. There is blood stained grass where neighbors say investigators found Stephen Clark lying in the front yard near his daughter's bike. "I think it is disturbing. More for the children, especially as young as they are," said Thompson. Detectives say when Debra Clark pulled the trigger, her six-year-old little girl was upstairs sleeping. Dispatcher: "Where's the gun?" Caller: "On top of the refrigerator. The sheriff man told me to put on the refrigerator, it's on the refrigerator." Dispatcher: "It is on top of the refrigerator?" Neighbors say it's not the first time they've seen blue lights in front of the house on Graceland Place in Arden, but they never thought the tape would be rolled out and the woman who lived there would confess to killing her husband. Debra Clark's 16-year-old daughter refused to live in the home because of the domestic violence situation there. Clark is at the Buncombe County jail and is charged with murder. A judge denied her bond.

March 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 16, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A daycare provider's license is suspended, after police say the owner left a baby there alone and we expect to find out if any charges will be filed on Friday. "Mom's Daycare" on Old Augusta Road is run by Janey Gillespie, and the Department of Social Services (DSS) tells us Gillespie's license is suspended. This comes after a mother showed up to get her 3-month-old son, and said she found him alone in his crib. According to a police report, the owner says she went to the bank and Blockbuster to get a movie. Greenville police tell us charges could be filed in the case on Friday.

March 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Did you know that there's a major gang problem in our area? That's what the Henderson County Sheriff says, and that's why he's doing something about it. The sheriff's office is now creating a unit focused on gangs thanks to some federal money. The graffiti on a city wall probably doesn't make much sense to most people, but deputies say it signals a frightening change in Henderson County. Sheriff Rick Davis said, "There are gangs here, there are indeed." Sheriff Rick Davis received \$133,000 of federal money to create a two man unit that will focus on gang activity. The FBI says some tattoos represent the gang MS-13-one of the most violent gangs in America. A MS-13 gang member is one of many located here in Henderson County, some members are as young as 12. Davis said, "They actively recruit members from middle school or high school and we want to make sure that doesn't occur." According to the FBI, MS-13 is made up of Latino illegal aliens. Investigators say the main issues here are not immigration, graffiti or tattoos, it's about the meth they bring in. Davis said, "The volume at which that methamphetamine is brought into Henderson County is very disturbing." Sheriff Davis says with the help of the new task force, many more gang members will spend the rest of their lives in prison.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A graveyard is supposed to be a peaceful resting place for the dead, but if you pull up and walk around one cemetery on Paris Mountain, you can see and hear there's a lot going on. "It basically looked like a war zone. There were falling trees everywhere, tombstones laying over. We picked most of them up," said Glenda Burke, who went to the site to visit her grandparents who are buried there. We found some guys with saws cutting down some of those branches, but they say they just wanted to pick-up some of the mess for firewood. Now, the Burke sisters want to know who's responsible for the rest. They say even baby headstones are ruined and they didn't expect all of this when they came to pay respects to their grandparents. "We found the trees laying on the graves, headstones laying over several of them were broken," said Wendy Burke. So they called FOX Carolina, and we found cut-up pieces of tree trunks, branches and debris all over the place. "You should at least respect that there was a life at one time," said Wendy Burke. The graves are just feet away from the Greenville Korean Church of the Nazarene. We talked to the minister who speaks very little English. Hopefully he, or whoever was hired to cut down the trees, will get back with us soon. The Burke sisters say a tree just missed their grandparents plot. It didn't cause any damage, but they say it is all about respect and preserving peace for those who are at rest. "We were raised that you say, 'Yes ma'am' and 'No ma'am,' and you respect certain things, and that seems to be happening less and less," said Glenda Burke. We're still working on trying to find out who cut down those trees and who is supposed to clean-up the mess.

March 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 22, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Anderson County Sheriff's Department busted a counterfeiting laboratory at a local motel. It happened Friday night at the Anderson Motel on Highway 29. Now, the Secret Service and US Postal Service are involved. Deputies say they received an anonymous phone call Friday saying there was a hostage at the motel, when officers arrived there was no hostage, instead they found counterfeit money, checks, and fake I.D. "They had material in there to manufacture checks, I.D.'s and other documents in there," said Chief Deputy Creed Hash. Deputies say 26-year-old Joshua Durham and 27-year-old Laura Kinninger were producing fake checks, money and state driver's licenses. That's not all. Deputies also found a chemical used to make bogus bills look real. "The pens you typically see at the registers, well they would put a chemical on the money to trick the pen and give a false indication the money was valid when it was not," said Hash. According to arrest warrants, even stolen mail from the Belton area was inside the room. Deputies aren't sure how many people have been victimized by this crime, but they are giving a word of caution. "We would encourage people to not place mail inside the mailbox and put the flag up. That's an indication to someone casing your neighborhood, that you have information they can steal," said Hash. The two suspects are facing three charges, each including forgery and possession of stolen goods. They are both being held in the Anderson Detention Center.

March 26, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 26, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Deputy Brent Moore's job isn't easy, but he gets behind the wheel everyday. His job is to get drunk drivers off the road or those who are driving high. "A lot of times people say they've only had two or three drinks and they don't think they're drunk, but they're the ones who end up in an accident," said Moore. For four years he's worked on the DUI task force with the Anderson County Sheriff's Office. He drives through neighborhoods and hops on the interstate, and sometimes he pulls over a reckless driver. "Smell is one of the ways we check and sometimes they have an open container in their cup holder," said Moore. Or sometimes it is as simple as catching a driver run a red light or breaking other traffic laws. "When they make a turn that's too wide or they cross a double yellow line," said Moore. Before investigators hit the streets, they go through training. Some of it involves drinking alcohol and getting drunk then performing field sobriety tests in a controlled environment. They use that training when they're patrolling the streets so they know what to look for when they pull a driver over. So investigators say when you hear the sirens and see the blue lights, they're just trying to help keep you safe on the road.

March 29, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 30, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A grand jury has indicted Allenna Ward, a former Bell Street Middle School teacher, on five counts of criminal sexual conduct with a minor and six counts of lewd acts on a minor. The Laurens County grand jury met Friday morning to consider the evidence against Ward. They decided there was enough evidence for Ward's case to go to trial. 23-year-old Ward was arrested in late February after allegations of "inappropriate" conduct with some of her students. Ward must return to court on April 2 at 9 a.m. to determine a trial date.

March 29, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 30, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

It's a crime of opportunity, at least that's how deputies describe a recent rash of purse snatchings in Anderson County. One victim was leaving a family owned restaurant. "We have been very fortunate until last Thursday, and of course we were not expecting it," said Billy Gravvanis, the victim's husband. The Gravvanis family was closing the business for the night. His wife and daughter were first to leave out the door. As they walked to the car, deputies say a man came from behind, snatched their pocket books and took off running down the street. "My wife started banging on the window, and she was scared but I didn't see my daughter," said Gravvanis. His daughter was left on the ground bruised and bleeding. The suspect got away with their purses and personal identity. Deputies have released a sketch of the suspect. They say, so far he's pulled off the same crime three times. "They are crimes of opportunity. The person cases out a location and sees someone who could be a target," said Chief Deputy Creed Hashe, of the Anderson County Sheriff's Department. That in mind, deputies recommend keeping a close eye on your surroundings. "They force me to lock my doors. I have installed video cameras for my protection and my customers' protection," said Gravvanis.

Attachments

Education

PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED FIRST QUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: **EDUCATION**

<u>DATE</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

January 4, 200710:00pmThe Ten O'clock NewsJanuary 4, 20075:00a-9:00aThe Morning News

Description:

After two-and-a-half years of delays, students finally returned to school at Greenville High. The vintage 1930's building underwent a complete renovation, which includes the addition of a new classroom wing, and a new gym. The project suffered serious delays along the way. First, plans to renovate the gym had to be scrapped in favor of a complete overhaul. Then, thieves swiped more than \$175 thousand worth of copper from the construction site. Students had to start the year at the old Parker Middle School, and are thrilled with their new surroundings. JF Lucas, the assistant principal, said, "We're all so excited to be back home at Greenville High School... It's just a good feeling." School officials say classroom areas are now 98-percent complete, and work on the gym is expected to be finished by April. Much of that work is expected to wrap up after regular school hours.

January 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 22, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

Winthrop University in Rock Hill has improved security in its dorms after a recent incident. Police say a man was charged with first-degree burglary and attempted criminal sexual conduct after he walked into a student's unlocked doom room at 4 a-m, placed his hand over her mouth and said he had a knife. Police say he ran when she started to struggle. Twenty-four-year-old Wayne Johnson has also been charged with breaking into a sorority house in October and fondling a woman and with breaking into another home near campus. School officials have begun locking residence halls during the day and making students use their I-D cards to enter the dorms. A worker at the front desk checks I-Ds again. The school plans to install more surveillance cameras.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

Even more is coming out about the Ware Shoals High School cheerleading scandal. Officers arrested cheerleading coach Jill Moore last week for "moral offenses." Then Monday deputies arrested Principal Jane Blackwell. She's accused of covering it all up. On Tuesday night, the Ware Shoals School Board also held an emergency meeting to discuss the case, but only minutes after school board members arrived they all went behind closed doors. Noticeably missing from the meeting was board member Marcus Bishop. Bishop is the father of Ware Shoal High School's former cheerleading coach Jill Moore. Greenwood County deputies arrested Moore last week for quote moral offenses involving some of her cheerleaders and national guardsmen. According to FOX Carolina sources Moore allegedly recruited cheerleaders to "party" with them. Margaret Oxner was one of many parents at the meeting. She said, "I'm mad. They're supposed to be giving my kids a good education, not sex ed." Those feelings were the same across the board. One woman said, "I have a sick feeling." Another said, "Disappointed in our school system, and in our superintendent." FOX Carolina has learned that Fay Sprouse is not only the school superintendent, she's also related to Principal Jane Blackwell. Many parents are now questioning the board members decisions. Lana Dyla said, "Anybody who doesn't look after our children should not be in charge of our children." After almost an hour of

closed session, board members returned only to announce that they couldn't comment on the investigation because it's still ongoing. Ed Farr said, "There's going to probably be a trial or two and we'll see what the results are." Ware Shoals 8th grader Kirby Davis thinks all of this may be just the beginning. She said, "I guess you could say the house of cards is finally falling. "School board members say it's perfectly within the guidelines to have relatives who work for the district. They also said they can vote on matters even if it involves a relative.

January 30, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 30, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

As students at Clemson University head to class, some are taking a break to talk about what they call "disturbing pictures." Those pictures were taken at an off-campus party. One guy in the photos painted his body black, and other students showed up gripping bottles of 40 ounce malt liquor with their hands duct taped to the bottles. LeRone Smalls, a senior at the school says it is very offensive. "They acted out of ignorance." Smalls said. The theme was a "Living the Dream" party held on the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, "It promotes a negative image of black people- the race of people," said Smalls. There are more pictures which show a girl showing off some gold teeth and wearing a t-shirt that shows someone smiling with a gold grill. Another picture shows a girl with her pants stuffed to enlarge her "behind," and there are several people sporting gold chains, jerseys and baggy clothes. However, some say the most offensive thing is a poster which shows Dr. King with the words "drink more" coming out of his mouth. Adedoyin Salami went to the party. "It went from making fun of a cultural phenomenon, to making fun of a culture of people. At that point it became offensive, and a lot of people left the party," said Salami. Adedoyin says he left too, but originally came dressed in business attire. He says he went hoping to change minds. "There are difference among people, and we have to learn to work with each other in a way we're not always stereotyping people," said Salami. We decided to show the pictures to other students on campus to see what they thought. "It seems almost racist," said one student. Some students couldn't believe it, like Ashley York. "This doesn't represent Clemson, and I think this is a poor judgment on their part," said York, Justin Griffith, a Sophomore at Clemson, says it didn't offend him at all. "These kind of theme parties, I mean there are even lingerie parties, those are popping up a lot more often too. So, I mean this is pretty commonplace to tell you the truth. You see you got white and black people here so its' not really defining anybody," said Griffith. However, we had to point out that the picture he was looking at was a white guy painted in black face. Now there are students who say they want to teach others a lesson- one of respect.

February 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 19, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

The Anderson County school district has put a school resource officer on administrative leave after several students say he sexually harassed them. It happened at Palmetto High School in Williamston, which is located in Anderson County. The school officer is also a police officer with the Williamston Police Department. The district and the police chief here say that as far as they know the officer has not broken any laws, but he is accused of crossing the line. Corporal Donnie Bryant is not charged with any crimes, but five female students have filed complaints with the school district. According to several Palmetto High School students we spoke to, their school resource officer is a little too friendly with female students. Student Jeff Pilgrim said, "He was always touching the girls saying hey baby, how are you doing good looking." Another student, JD Wolfrey said, "You heard him saying hey baby, stuff like that. Hi good looking. "Several female students also told us off camera that Bryant would often hug them in the hallway and give them kisses on the cheek and forehead. This alleged behavior also made some male students uncomfortable. Pilgrim said, "He was always touchy feely with all the girls. It was inappropriate, he just pushed it too far." Bryant has been the safety officer at Palmetto High School for over twenty years, and it's the first time anyone has ever filed a complaint against him. Byrant has been suspended with pay pending the outcome of the district's investigation.

February 26, 2007 February 26, 2007 10:00pm 5:00a-9:00a The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

Description:

Dillon Bull is just like any other 10-year-old. Dillon likes football and basketball, but he grew up quick when he and a friend found a loaded pistol wedged between a seat on a school bus. "We stopped and this gun slid out and so we told the teacher and she came back there and looked," said Dillon Bull, a fourth grader at Skyland Elementary School in Greer. Dillon saw the gun as he sat in his seat with a friend. Their class was on their way back from a field trip at Furman University. "Really nervous because somebody might have got shot," said Bull. Now, administrators and police are looking into the case. "This other bus came for us, we got on the other bus and the police asked us some questions," said Bull. School administrators sent a letter home explaining to parents what happened. "You know when your kids go to school you think they're in a safe environment," said Mickey Bull, Dillon's father. No one is hurt, but Dillon's father says it could've been worse. "I mean it was a loaded gun, it could've gone off and some child in the seat, behind the seat or the child in that seat- it could've injured someone or you know it could've even killed them," said Dillon's father. Investigators don't know yet how the gun got on the bus.

March 6, 2007 March 6, 2007 10:00pm 5:00a-9:00a The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

Description:

There are always a lot of rumors flying around a high school, but when FOX Carolina got a call about a serious one at Eastside High School in Greenville County, we decided to check it out. Student John Horton said, "I heard that people have been posting stuff about our principal and another teacher that's derogatory and rude." He heard right. Eight students got in some serious trouble after they posted comments on Facebook. Facebook is a web site students and alumni use to connect with another. Maisa Badwan said, "I apologize for what I said. It wasn't the right thing to do." Maisa is a senior at Eastside. She admitted that she was one of about eight students who posted rude comments either about Eastside's principal or an English teacher. She said, "It was teenage dumb stuff. We didn't mean anyone any harm." Because of what they wrote on Facebook, the students have been suspended for five days. They were kicked out of all school activities and for seniors like Maisa, they can't go to prom. Maisa said, "We're all really good kids. Model students really. "Maisa can no longer be senior class president either. While she was president, Maisa had been working on the prom committee since last summer. She said, "I apologize to anyone I offended. There were no threats to anyone's life or anything like that. "Maisa said all she wants is to go to prom, something she had been dreaming about for a long time. She said, "Since I was in sixth grade I dreamt about going. I really feel kind of awful." The Greenville County School District said they are still investigating, and can't comment on the matter.

March 7, 2007 March 7, 2007 10:00pm 5:00a-9:00a The Ten O'clock News
The Morning News

Description:

On Tuesday night, we told you how several <u>students</u> had been suspended for writing controversial comments on an off-campus web site. On Wednesday, we learned exactly why they were suspended, and how they may be able to go to prom after all. <u>Facebook</u> is a web site many students and alumni use to keep up with one another. For some students at Eastside High School it's become a bathroom stall wall. On Facebook, seven students wrote nasty comments about either the principal or a teacher. Those students were suspended for days and kicked out of after-school clubs. Student Casy Gold said, "A lot more serious things have happened. These are model students, not right." Most students we spoke to felt the same way, including <u>Maisa Badwan</u>, one of the students suspended. She said, "I think the punishment is a little extreme." Some parents though weren't as sure. Ronnie Moore said, "That's a hard question to answer. Freedom of Speech is 50/50? I don't know." The school district says there is no rule that specifically says you can't write rude comments on a web site. Even though the computers they used were off campus, those comments caused major problems on campus, and that's what got the students in trouble. Ann Wannemacher said, "I think it's a little harsh." The school district says anything that's "disruptive to the school environment,"

like the kids talking about what was on Facebook, is grounds for punishment. However, it's up to each individual school to determine the punishment. Maisa says she accepts what she did was wrong, but there's one after school event she's been dreaming of going to. She said, "I would take suspension. I really want to go prom." The school district says in order to get banned from prom, it has to be your second offense. Since this is the first time Maisa has ever been in trouble, it sounds like she may be getting her wish. Right now, we're still waiting for official word from the school to find out if Maisa will be allowed to go to prom.

March 7, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 7, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

A bus ride home turned dangerous for eight-year-old Shayla Lance. Relatives say that on Friday she got on the wrong bus. A bus she typically rides Monday through Thursday. "Before we even halfway left the school I told the bus driver. She said she couldn't do anything and she gave me a mean look," said eight-year-old Shayla Lance. A mean look, and then the driver dropped her off at the wrong bus stop, according to her mother. "They just dropped her off they didn't care if she made it home," said her mother, Sheila Williams. Shayla said, "They told me to wait right here, and another bus would come and get me but it never came." Relatives say for ten minutes the eight-year-old stood by herself until her older sister happened to drive by. "Within ten minutes time anyone could have got her, there is a sex predator down the street, and she could have been kidnapped," said her sister, Amanda Williams. School officials say, no way. Though they declined an on-camera interview they say when it was discovered Shayla had gotten on the wrong bus they made arrangements with family members, and dropped the eight-year-old off with her grandparents. Something relatives say never happened. "How many kids have gone through this? Something needs to be done," said Williams.

March 13, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 13, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

The Senate gave key approval today to a bill that would allow students in public, private and home schools to take online courses for high school credit. The proposal passed without debate after senators agreed to let students enroll in the state's virtual school program on a first-come, first-serve basis, rather than give priority to public school students. Last month, the House attempted the same change. But that chamber compromised by reserving ten percent of the program's three-thousand slots per semester for private and home-schooled students. The legislation requires another vote in the Senate.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5:00a-9:00a The Morning News

Description:

Concerns about health and safety have led officials to close the job-training center for teens and young adults at Cherokee. Esther Johnson, national director of the U-S Department of Labor's Job Corps program, says about 150 students at the Oconaluftee Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center will be offered transfers to centers in North Carolina and other states. That's until officials decide whether the center in Cherokee can be reopened. Job Corps offers free education and vocational training for people ages 16 through 24. Students can earn a high school diploma or G-E-D, learn job skills and receive other assistance. Students also are paid a monthly allowance. Johnson says the facility is run down and hasn't been maintained. She says problems include visible mold, "deplorable" restrooms, and roof damage. Johnson says she hasn't heard of any reports of injury or sickness because of the conditions.

Attachments

Environment

PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED FIRST QUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: **ENVIRONMENT**

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM

January 4, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News January 4, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

New York City is a winter wonderland this season -- mainly with people wondering where the cold and snow have gone. There has been no snow in Central Park yet. It's the longest snowless start to the winter in 130 years. Temperatures have been close to 60 this week, prompting joggers and strollers to leave the winter gear at home. At the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, cherry blossoms are in bloom. Horticultural taxonomist Mark Tebbitt showed off winter-flowering trees that usually produce a handful of blossoms. This year, they have thousands. "It's wonderful that we have this display at this time of year," he says.

January 17, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News January 17, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Beaufort's mayor says a new plan to preserve over one thousand acres next to Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort could mean the preservation of hundreds more acres in northern Beaufort County. The plan Mayor Bill Rauch introduced on a radio program yesterday focuses on 12-hundred acres of Clarendon Farms that the air station wants to protect from development because it sits under the flight paths of Marine jets. Rauch says the city has reached a tentative agreement with the federal government to buy development rights to the land. The Department of Defense has previously teamed with Beaufort County and the Trust for Public Land to conserve land around the station. Rauch has said he wants to annex the Clarendon and McLeod farms just north of town and permit as many as 16-thousand new homes to be built there.

January 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News January 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Officials say Hilton Head Island is planning to begin supplementing water monitoring by state authorities this spring with its own tests. Residents say they're are worried the Department of Health and Environmental Control might declare coastal waters hazardous or temporarily close a beach for a passing storm instead of a major pollution concern. Deputy town manager Chuck Hoelle says the extra testing would provide Hilton Head Island with a backup to compare to the state's tests, or help determine the extent of a problem more quickly. A DHEC spokesman says the department issued five advisory for Hilton Head Island between 2003 and 2006.

January 22, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News January 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Environmentalists want the state to force the removal of structures on rivers and lakes called "river shacks." The shacks are usually on a wooden deck floating on a bed of 55-gallon drums. The South Carolina Coastal Conservation League says it recently counted 135 of them on nine rivers, mostly in the Lowcountry, and on Lake Marion. State regulators say there is little they can do to force the removal of the shacks. Moncks Corner Representative David Umphlett plans to introduce legislation to give the owners five years to get rid of them. The bill would make the construction or use of new shacks a misdemeanor with a one thousand dollar fine. Conway Representative Liston Barfield says the shelters could help people on the water when a storm comes up.

January 25, 2007	5a-9:00am	The Morning News
January 25, 2007	10:00pm	The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Last night, blue and green lights were spotted in the sky around eight o'clock Wednesday night. People from all across the upstate and western North Carolina reported seeing the light streak through the sky toward the ground. Sheriff's offices in Greenville, Pickens and Spartanburg counties say they received dozens of calls reporting the lights. One of our viewers wrote in to tell us what she saw. She writes: "I was traveling on Michelin Boulevard at the intersection of highway 24 when I saw what I thought was a small plane heading for the runway of Anderson county airport. I realized quickly that it was not a plane but appeared to be something falling. I thought maybe a meteorite. "We still don't know exactly what the strange lights were, but we'll keep you updated. Doug Geger, with the Roper Mountain Science Center, would like to hear from anyone who saw the lights on Wednesday night. He can be reached at 864.355.8912 or reppgui@bellsouth.net. If you have any pictures of the mysterious lights, please e-mail them to us at foxcarolinanews@foxcarolina.com.

February 14, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News February 14, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Some lawmakers want to keep the low-level nuclear waste facility in Barnwell County open to the entire nation. Conway Representative Billy Witherspoon has introduced such a bill. The landfill is supposed to close to all but South Carolina, Connecticut and New Jersey after next year. Witherspoon says the bill would let the state collect (m) millions of dollars in fees companies pay to bury their low-level nuclear waste at the site. Barnwell County gets about two (m) million dollars a year from the landfill. The state gets about ten (m) million dollars a year. Barnwell Representative Lonnie Hosey says his area needs the jobs. Sumter Senator Phil Leventis says keeping the landfill open would send a message that there's nothing South Carolina won't do for money.

February 16, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News February 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Experts are trying to determine why the rusty blackbird appears to be disappearing along the South Carolina coast. The bird seems to be confined to a few small flocks wintering on the South Carolina coast. The North American Breeding Bird Survey says the Eastern migrating population has lost 19 of every 20 birds over the past 30 years. Nathan Dias with the Cape Romain Bird Observatory says the birds used to fly to and from the swamps every night and darken the skies. Dias says it's hard to find the birds now. Theories for the decline range from the draining of bottom hardwood tracts for development to something happening in the birds' summer home in Canada and Alaska. Dias says it could be toxic pesticides, mercury poisoning or the loss of insects that the birds eat.

February 23, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News February 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

A team of University of South Carolina researchers has been awarded a one (m) million grant to continue investigating the effects of climate change on water resources. The money is from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The professors are adapting a modeling system being used to track the effects of climate change on rivers and streams in the Catawba-Wateree Basin and the Yadkin-Pee Dee Basin. Researcher Dan Tufford says calculating climate change and drought is vital for water resource managers. Tufford says it's especially critical because North Carolina and South Carolina disagree about plans by North Carolina cities to take water from the Catawba River. The river is a source of water for cities in both states.

February 28, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News February 27, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Emergency crews in Greenville County responded to reports of a gas leak at Southern Water Treatment Systems located at 2806 Whitehorse Road. Workers were evacuated from the plant, and emergency workers closed roads around the plant to traffic while they determined the extent of the leak. We'll bring you more details as they become available.

February 28, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News February 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Managers at Great Smoky Mountains National Park plan to hold a prescribed burn today on a 530-acre tract of forest in the Cataloochee Valley area near Maggie Valley. The burn had been scheduled for last Saturday, but was canceled because of dangerously dry conditions and high wind forecasts. It's being held to restore oak and pine woodlands, and is expected to help create additional forage and habitat for the park's experimental elk population. The prescribed-fire program for the interior Smokies is designed to replicate, as closely as possible, the role fires historically played in shaping and maintaining the park's ecosystem. A portion of the road in Cataloochee Valley will be closed to vehicular traffic from Shanty Branch to the Rough Fork Trailhead. Rough Fork Trail and Big Fork Ridge Trail, which border the southern end of the burn unit, will remain open during the burn. Fire personnel will be there to escort the public to the trails.

February 28, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News February 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

South Carolina legislators are to tour the low-level nuclear waste landfill in Barnwell County this afternoon. The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee is considering a proposal to allow the landfill to remain open to companies around the nation after next year's deadline. Under current law, only companies in South Carolina, Connecticut and New Jersey are supposed to be able to use the site after next year. But Conway Representative Billy Witherspoon has introduced a bill to keep the site open. The site buries debris from nuclear power plants, as we as contaminated items from hospitals. Some environmentalists oppose the plan. The Utah company that owns the site, EnergySolutions, invited lawmakers to tour the site.

March 14, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News March 14, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Emergency management officials say a minor earthquake shook parts of east Georgia last night. Emergency Services Director Pam Tucker says officials are getting calls today from people in Columbia County, Georgia, who heard a loud boom and felt vibrations late last night. She says earthquake sensors in Georgia and South Carolina pegged the quake at one-point-eight on the Richter scale. She called it a relatively minor event. The Augusta area includes several prehistoric earthquake faults that occasionally cause seismic activity far beneath the earth.

March 15, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News March 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

The City of Greenville released a list Thursday of businesses they say are planning to voluntarily comply with Greenville's smoking ban. City leaders say the list includes almost 90-percent of businesses inside the city limits. Click here to get a list of smoke-free businesses. Wanda Stokes, a spokesperson for the city, says the list includes some businesses who were originally opposed to the ban. Some businesses have reported an increase in their business since the ban took effect on January 1, 2007, Stokes says. To promote the change, the city launched a campaign called "Breathe Easy. You're in the City." The city uses the program to highlight the benefits of enjoying a smoke-free Greenville. Last week, Judge John Few ruled the city's smoking ban unconstitutional and unenforceable. Greenville is hoping the state supreme court will uphold their ban.

March 16, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News March 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Last week, a judge made it legal again to smoke in Greenville city businesses. Even though it's legal, many of those bars and restaurants have decided to remain smoke free. Addy's Dutch Café in downtown Greenville has been around for 20 years, but this year, there's been a major change here. Addy Sulley said, "We stayed non-smoking. "The owner, Addy Sulley, has decided to keep it smoke free not because he has to, but because he wants to. He said, "To prove a point. The point is that eight people in city hall decided for the whole city what to do or not to do. "The city says almost 90-percent of all businesses have now decided to remain smoke free. Ironically, Addy is one of several Greenville business owners suing the city to overturn the smoking ban. Sulley said, "They did the whole thing without voting, behind closed doors that's why we are totally against it. I think it was extremely non-American what they did there." Some people who live in Greenville say the decision makes them breathe a sigh of relief. Ashely King who lives in Greenville said, "I like it now you don't have to smell the smoke if you don't want to. "While others say it doesn't really make a difference. Tasha Goldsmith said, "I do smoke occasionally, it doesn't bother me either way. "The city is appealing the judge's ruling that declared the smoking ban unconstitutional. As for Addy's, the decision to remain smoke free for good remains up in the air. Sulley said, "I think the city should leave the business owner alone."

March 20, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News March 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Environmental groups are organizing their opposition to a proposed coal-fired power plant run by Santee Cooper in Florence County. The Southern Environmental Law Center has filed a letter of concern with the Department of Health and Environmental Control, asking the agency to refuse to issue an air quality permit to the utility. The Coastal Conservation League also opposes the 984 (m) million dollar plant to be built along the Great Pee Dee River near Kingsburg. Nancy Cave with the league says there are better ways to generate power that will protect the environment. Santee Cooper wants to open the plant by 2014. The state-owned utility says the plant should employ about 100 people with an average salary of 50-thousand dollars a year.

Attachments

Government

PROGRAMS ADDRESSING PROBLEM OR NEED FIRST OUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: **GOVERNMENT**

<u>DATE</u> <u>TIME</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

Sundays 10:00 am FOX NEWS SUNDAY

DESCRIPTION:

Fox News Sunday is a national weekly program with current events and political issues. (60:00)

January 3, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 3, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

In ten days, a judge will rule on whether Greenville's smoking ban will stay or go. On Tuesday, Judge Few refused to issue a temporary injunction to stop the ban from being enforced. He says, in ten days, he'll have a decision on whether the ban should be stopped permanently. A group of Greenville bars and restaurants is suing to get the ban overturned. The bars and restaurants say the ban hurts businesses, but the city says there's no proof of that, and that the ban is best for everyone's health. Greenville City Council voted unanimously in October to ban smoking in nearly all public buildings, including restaurants and bars, in the interest of public health.

January 4, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 4, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

If folks in Anderson want to go shopping on Sunday, they'll have to wait until after 1:30 PM to hit the stores. That's because the new county council voted Tuesday night to uphold Blue Laws, nearly a month after the old council voted to get rid of them. Shopping at Target early in the morning is what folks in Anderson are doing most days, but some of them wish that could be an option on Sundays too. "I think it's ridiculous, I really do. They put it out there and rescinded it. I don't think they had right to do that," said one shopper. The Blue Laws are back in effect. That means stores can't open before 1:30 PM on Sundays unless they are selling food and medicine. Shopper Ann Mattison isn't happy about it. Mattison said, "It's like a dictatorship. They pick and choose what they want to sell, or who they want open. I don't think its right." Books and movies are among the things you can't buy on Sundays; however, some are hoping the council will rethink their decision. "They put it out there for the people, they should have left it there," said another shopper. The old council, last month, wanted to end Blue Laws to give businesses an economic boost, but with the new council's decision, stores fear that won't happen. "I don't think it's fair for them to rescind it, and say some people have to work, and some people don't," said another shopper. For now, those who are scheduled to work on Sunday mornings, will have to show up unless things change. Greenville and Spartanburg County voted to get rid of their Blue Laws several years ago.

January 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 5, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

President Bush is gearing up to put his reshaped Iraq game plan into action by naming a new military leadership team, FOX News has learned. A veteran American diplomat serving now as U.S. envoy to Pakistan, Ryan Crocker, is expected to replace Zalmay Khalilzad as the U.S. ambassador to Iraq. Khalilzad will be nominated to become the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, according to a senior Bush administration official. Gen. John Abizaid, the top U.S. commander in the Middle East, and Gen. George Casey, the chief general in Iraq, are both expected to leave their jobs in coming weeks. Bush plans to replace Abizaid with Adm. William Fallon, the top U.S. commander in the Pacific. Casey's replacement would be Army Lt. Gen. David Petraeus, who headed the effort to train Iraqi

security forces. Bush spoke with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in a secure video hookup for nearly two hours Thursday. The president said he sought assurances from al-Maliki that he would do what's necessary to protect Iraqis against rising sectarian violence. "I believe Prime Minister Maliki has the will necessary to make the tough decisions," the president said. Besides ushering in new personnel, Bush on Friday was to discuss his plans for the Iraq war privately with more than a dozen senators, a list that includes some of his biggest critics, as well as his most ardent supporters. Briefings with lawmakers were expected to continue through next week, culminating in a meeting with bipartisan leadership on Wednesday, according to lawmakers and aides. The new strategy comes as a Democrats take control of Congress. A leading Democrat hinted that a compromise is near for a temporary surge of U.S. troops in Iraq. Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who sponsored a resolution last year that called for troops to begin to redeploy from Iraq by the year's end, said he could support a temporary surge with conditions. "There are a lot of ways you could have a surge, it's not just 'surge versus nonsurge," Levin, D-Mich., said. "If a temporary surge is part of a reduction of U.S. forces in four to six months with political milestones to achieving a political solution agreed upon by Iragis" then he would be on board. One option being considered by Bush includes sending 8,000 to 9,000 more troops to Iraq, primarily to reinforce Baghdad. There are roughly 140,000 troops in Iraq. The option involves sending two additional Army brigades, or roughly 7,000 soldiers, to Baghdad, and two Marine battalions, totaling about 1,500 troops, to western Anbar Province, the center of the Sunni Arab insurgency. In other leadership changes, retired Vice Adm. Mike McConnell, a veteran of more than 25 years in intelligence, was to be named Friday by Bush to succeed John Negroponte as national intelligence director, said a senior administration official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the decision was not yet public. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, a member of the Senate Defense appropriations subcommittee, told The Associated Press on Thursday that he understands Bush wants to appoint Fallon to head the U.S. Central Command, a position responsible for directing the wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan. "He's highly knowledgeable and well-educated and respected," Inouye said of Fallon. "I would think that his nomination, if the president is to submit it, would go flying through." Each of the personnel changes comes on the heels of Defense Secretary Robert Gates replacing Donald H. Rumsfeld, the architect of the unpopular war. Other lawmakers said Thursday they were skeptical of such a plan. "My conclusion was that it would be a mistake to send more troops to Baghdad," said Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine. "I think the sectarian violence there requires a political not a military solution." This concern was echoed by Abizaid in testimony on Capitol Hill in November. He said 20,000 more troops could be deployed, but that the Army and Marine Corps are too taxed to sustain the increase for long. Giving Fallon and Petraeus the top military posts in the Middle East would help Bush assert that he is taking a fresh approach, and help pave the way for him to turn policy there in a new direction. As with Abizaid, Casey also has expressed reservations about the potential effectiveness of boosting troop strength in Iraq. He told reporters in Iraq last month that he is "not necessarily opposed to the idea" of sending in more troops, but said any increase would have to "help us progress to our strategic objectives." Besides military, Bush's new plan is expected to contain economic, political and diplomatic components. Given the need to reduce high unemployment and draw Iragis away from Shiite militias and the Sunni insurgency, the president is considering loans to businesses. He is looking at getting Iraqis into short-term jobs by proposing a significant increase in the discretionary funds that military commanders can use for reconstruction projects.

January 10, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 10, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The first online videos chronicling South Carolina Representative Keith Kelly's legislative career show him sitting at his desk and wading through the governor's proposed budget. Constituents can also hear him lament about a Christmas gift -- a coffee maker without a pot. The freshman Republican lawmaker plans to post regular video logs on his Web site and YouTube page. He is perhaps the first South Carolina legislator to keep constituents informed through the popular online video-sharing site. The 48-year-old attorney credits his daughters with keeping him up to date on technology.

January 10, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 10, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Pregnant women seeking an abortion in South Carolina would first have to look at ultrasound images of their fetus under legislation introduced this week. The bill's sponsors believe the requirement would lead to fewer abortions, with more women opting for adoption or keeping the child. Chief sponsor, Senator Kevin Bryant says the proposal would help women make a more informed choice. Before performing an abortion, doctors would have to verify the gestational age of a fetus with an ultrasound, then show the ultrasound images to the patient, who must sign a consent form saying she's reviewed them. NA-RAL Pro-Choice America believes women should have the option of an ultrasound. But the organization says women should --NOT-- be forced to undergo a medically unnecessary procedure and view the images against their will.

January 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 17, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Senator John McCain, a major player in the 2008 presidential race, made a stop Tuesday at Greenville's Downtown Airport to hold a press conference. McCain received the support of South Carolina Speaker of the House, Bobby Harrell's support during the media event. McCain also announced that Harrell will serve as co-chair of the senator's exploratory committee in South Carolina. Although McCain has made no official announcement to run for president in 2008, the Arizona Republican has been a front-runner in possible nominees for the country's highest office. We'll have complete coverage of McCain's visit to the upstate on The Ten O'Clock News.

January 18, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 18, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Prosecutors want more money to hire attorneys to handle drunken driving cases. But some lawmakers want more details before they approve the request. Prosecutors have asked for more than three (m) million dollars to give each of the state's 16 judicial circuits 200-thousand dollars to hire an average of three prosecutors. The new prosecutors would handle drunken driving cases, primarily in magistrate courts. Most D-U-I cases are handled in magistrate courts, with police officers serving as prosecutors. Greg Hembree of the South Carolina Solicitors Association says more prosecutors are needed to handle the cases, where the defendants often have attorneys. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dan Cooper of Piedmont says he wants more information before endorsing the request.

January 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Senate is winding up work on an ethics reform bill that includes a vote today to shed more light on the touchy issue of earmarks. Those are the pet projects that are often secretly added to bills to benefit specific companies. The earmark proposal being voted on today would increase the number of special projects that have to be disclosed. The Senate is also about to vote on a proposal that would change the rules regarding lawmakers' use of corporate jets.

January 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 23, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Nearly two weeks after declaring his new strategy for Iraq, President Bush is planning to focus on his domestic agenda during his State of the Union address Tuesday, offering new proposals on alternative forms of energy, immigration reform and health care. Bush will also propose ways to improve the budget ledger and make changes to the No Child Left Behind education bill he signed into law in 2001. Tuesday's speech is designed to hit on relatively few themes rather than a checklist of items. "When you have a Democratic Congress that came in two weeks ago saying, "We want to get things done," we've got some offers that they're going to be pretty good for

them," said White House spokesman Tony Snow. Taking reporters' questions in advance of the annual address, Snow tried to set a light mood Monday morning, joking that asking which is the best part of the president's speech is "like looking at a drawer full of diamonds." "Health care's a big issue. Energy's a big issue. Education's a big issue. Immigration is a big issue - all of which are, kind of, top-of-mind for Americans. It's worth spending a little more time to walk through how the president analyzes the problem and how he proposes to try to address them and to reach out to members of Congress," Snow said. He said the president spent the weekend revising and practicing the speech at Camp David, and would continue to do so after arriving back at the White House on Monday afternoon. The speech had not changed much in recent days and "at this time, it's more polishing up," Snow said. On energy policy, Snow would not discuss specific portions of the president's speech, "but it's worth saying that the president has always believed when it comes to climate change that the best way to achieve reductions is through innovation and to figure out ways to come up with energy sources that are going to meet our economy's constant demand for energy and at the same time go to a way that's friendly for the environment." Officials are promising an alternative fuels plan, but it won't include the greenhouse gas limits the heads of 10 major corporations and four environmental organizations called for on Monday. The president feels that would slow down the economy, officials said. On health care, the president is expected to offer a plan that gives tax breaks so people can buy health insurance. The president's plan would pay for health insurance for 80 percent of the public by taxing the benefits high income people get from their employers. That is not a recommendation of the American Council of Physicians, and Bush expects some grumbling, Snow said. "There's the prospect that under the President's plan, more than 100 million people are going to pay less for health insurance, and millions more who are not presently insured will have access to it," he said. Despite revealing his plan on Jan. 10 to send an additional 21,500 U.S. troops to Iraq to stabilize the country, Snow said Bush will spend a "significant amount of time" in the State of the Union discussing Iraq and the global War on Terror. The troop proposal, which has already gone partly into effect, has drawn stark partisan division. Senate Democrats on Wednesday are set to begin debating a nonbinding resolution that would say "it is not in the national interest of the United States to deepen its military involvement in Iraq, particularly by escalating U.S. troop presence in Iraq." In a published interview Monday, Bush told USA Today he believes many Americans know it is important to win in Iraq, but also said he will try to show the global context and importance of the war there. "I will back up the speech I gave last week with some more talk about Iraq ... but I'm also going to talk about Irag in the larger context of a global and ideological struggle. My point is going to be, 'what happens in Iraq matters to your security here at home," Bush told the newspaper. In the interview, Bush also acknowledged that he faces skepticism among both Democrats and Republicans but said he believes he can win them over with the new revisions to his Iraq policy, detailed in the Jan. 10 speech. He called alternately for patience among the skeptics, and for a better plan if they have one. The "best way to convince them that this makes sense is to implement it and show them that it works, show them that there is security in the capital. ... And what I would say to the members of Congress ... for those who have condemned the plan before it had a chance to work, that you have a special obligation to put forth a plan that you think will work," Bush said. A new Associated Press-America Online poll suggests support for Bush's Iraq strategy has improved by about 5 percentage points to 31 percent of registered voters. The numbers come after one of the worst weekends for U.S. casualties in which 27 soldiers and Marines died in a series of attacks and incidents, including a downed helicopter and a separate attack by insurgents dressed in U.S. military uniforms. Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin, D-Mich., is one of the chief sponsors of one bipartisan resolution opposing Bush's plan. He said over the weekend he would push for a vote on the resolution because the only way to make Iraqis take more responsibility is to show them America's support will not last indefinitely. "What we've got to do is keep the pressure on the Iraqis to reach a political settlement and not deepen our military involvement, which adds targets but doesn't add much in the way of pressure," Levin told "FOX News Sunday." Bush, however, has said that Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri Al-Maliki already is delivering on promises to provide more troops for Baghdad and to crack down on militias responsible for much of the sectarian violence, including the Mahdi army, which is loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al Sadr. Set to deliver the Democrats' response to the president's address is the newly seated Sen. Jim Webb of Virginia. In a telephone conference with reporters Monday, Webb said his address would discuss the ideas "that we need to get a re-orientation in our national security policy with Iraq, but not only with Iraq; we need to restore economic fairness to this country; and we need to have a government that's more accountable to the people." He said he does "not intend to deliver a particularly partisan speech. That part of the campaign is over. ... My speech will highlight areas where Democrats in Congress have different priorities." This is the second year in a row that a Virginia Democrat has delivered the party's official response to the president's annual address - last year Gov. Tim Kaine was tapped to deliver the response. Webb said that as a member of the Senate Foreign Relations and Armed Services committees, he's believes that hearings and oversight will provide accountability needed to check the Bush administration, which he said hasn't handled spending in Iraq well. Webb said he has not come to a decision which,

if any, of the Democrat resolutions on Iraq he would support, but called the one sponsored by Democrats Levin and Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware and Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska "a good start" that will show the sense of the Senate over the issue. Webb said a number of Democrats have given him recommendations and thoughts about what to include in the response, "but on this one, I pretty much decided to write it myself - but with the understanding that I am speaking for the Democratic Party." In a move signaling how quickly the 2008 presidential race is defining itself, former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack already assailed portions of the speech, including the president's expected comments about energy. "Last year, the president suggested in a promise to us that he would make an aggressive effort to make renewable energy a centerpiece of a growing American economy. Unfortunately, his proposals were weak and failed to deliver," said Vilsack, also during a phone conference call. Vilsack, a Democrat, accused the president of spending too much of his efforts on Iraq "instead of focusing on expanding the economy here in America so that the middle class can grow instead of shrink." He called for greater investment in renewable energy, a politically and economically important issue for Vilsack's home state, which is invested heavily in ethanol production.

January 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 23, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Bills that would ratify constitutional amendments banning same-sex marriage and limiting government's eminent domain powers are heading to the House floor. The House Judiciary Committee approved the bills today, a week after the Senate Judiciary Committee sent its ratification bills to the floor. Voters approved the constitutional changes in November. The state already has a law banning same-sex marriage, but amendment supporters said it would close a loophole that could allow a judge to strike the law down and open the door for gay unions in the state. The eminent domain change would ban the state from condemning private property for any purpose except public use. It would also allow condemnation for private use only if the property is blighted, or dangerous to the community.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Senate is expected to resume debate today on Governor Mark Sanford's proposal to make several statewide offices appointed, rather than elected. Nine statewide constitutional officers, including the governor, are elected in South Carolina. Sanford says the executive branch needs more appointments to improve government accountability. The six bills also include a measure that would have future lieutenant governors run jointly with governors. Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer refused to endorse the idea yesterday, saying he didn't want his personal feelings to affect the debate he is presiding over in the Senate. The Senate started work yesterday on a bill to make the adjutant general an appointed position. South Carolina is the only state that elects its National Guard commander.

January 29, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 29, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A Senate committee this afternoon will discuss a bill to ban the use of machines that turn liquor into a breathable vapor. A Web site for the machine Alcohol Without Liquid says it's the "ultimate party toy" that provides a "fun new legal way to enjoy alcohol" without a hangover and with just a few calories. The device consists of a plug-in generator, tubing and hand-held vaporizer. Camden Senator Vincent Sheheen wants to make the device illegal. Punishment would range from a 300-dollar fine on first offense up to a three thousand dollar fine or two years in prison for a third offense. Sheheen says it's probably --not-- in the public interest to make it easier and faster to get drunk. He says he's --not-- aware of any problems with the machines in the state now.

January 30, 200710:00pmThe Ten O'clock NewsJanuary 30, 20075a-9:00amThe Morning News

Description:

South Carolina lawmakers now say the Ware Shoals High School scandal is making them take a second look at the legal age of consent, and they may want to raise it. Deputies have charged Jill Moore with contributing to the delinquency of a minor because she allegedly gave cheerleaders alcohol and cigarettes. During one of those incidents, a 16-year-old cheerleader had sex with a National Guardsman, but he's not being charged because the teen was of legal age. Most people we spoke to say if it's illegal to give to give a minor alcohol or cigarettes, it should also be illegal to have sex with them. If convicted of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, Jill Moore could face up to three years in jail, but the 21-year-old National Guard recruiter who had sex with the 16-year-old is not facing any criminal charges. One man said, "I think that's crazy stuff. That's crazy! No. I don't think kids should have sex with older people." Moore, 29, is accused of having an affair with a National Guard recruiter, and then "hooking-up" one of her cheerleaders with another National Guardsman. During one of their outings, the 16-year-old girl drank and had sex. A parent said, "Sex should be the same as alcohol, I think they should be tried for it." The National Guard is conducting its own investigation and both men, who have been suspended, could be charged with violations under the state military code. If found guilty, punishments could range from a fine to a military discharge. One man told us they deserve punishment. He said, "I think it's a mixed message. Both of them are unlawful, morally unlawful at least."

February 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 5, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Governor Mark Sanford is traveling around the state today to drum up public support for reforms at the Transportation Department. Sanford is making stops in Greer, Rock Hill and Florence. A review by the Legislative Audit Council has criticized the Transportation Department for wasting money. Shortly after that report was released last year, executive director Elizabeth Mabry announced she was retiring. A number of proposals have been offered in the General Assembly this year to change the way the agency is governed. Currently a seven-member panel sets policy for the agency, with six members chosen from Congressional districts and one named by the governor.

February 6, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 6, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Coastal tourism leaders are urging Governor Mark Sanford to take steps to make sure insurance is available and affordable along the coast. Sanford met with 15 top industry officials yesterday in Spartanburg at the state's annual tourism conference. Tourism is the state's largest industry, valued at 16 (b) billion dollars. Some companies have dropped polices for coastal homeowners; other companies have sharply increased premiums because of the hurricane threat. Doug Wendel with Burroughs and Chapin in Myrtle Beach asked Sanford to push for subsidies or to expand the area where property owners can get last-resort coverage from an association of insurers. Sanford says expanding the wind pool coverage area would shift coastal insurance costs to property owners statewide.

February 12, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 12, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

If there's a single state where being black holds the potential to boost Senator Barack Obama's chances to win the Democratic presidential nomination, South Carolina fits the bill. But Democratic voters and party officials say the Illinois senator will have to do as much as any other candidate to win the support of blacks, who make up about half the Palmetto State's Democratic voters. South Carolina's Democratic primary on January 29th of next year is one week after New Hampshire's first-in-the-nation primary. It's also one week before what could be a make-or-break mega primary in as many as a dozen states. Black voters made up 49 percent of votes in South Carolina's 2004 Democratic primary. By contrast, exit polls showed one percent of New Hampshire's 2004 Democratic primary voters were black.

February 14, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 14, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The House has given tentative approval to a proposal to limit growth in government spending. The plan would limit budget spending increases at the rates of population growth plus inflation, or six percent, whichever is less. Governor Mark Sanford has long asked lawmakers to limit in budget increases. Sanford's chief of staff, Tom Davis, says the proposal is a step in the right direction. The plan doesn't go as far as Sanford wants. Money collected above the spending limit would go into an account lawmakers could use for one-time tax cuts, highway projects, school buses, natural disasters, or other one-time expenses. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Dan Cooper says the proposal would limit spending, without restricting future plans.

February 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 20, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

North Charleston Representative Seth Whipper wants to increase the state's cigarette tax by 93 cents per pack. South Carolina has the lowest cigarette tax in the country, at seven cents per pack. The rate hasn't changed since 1977. Whipper says his proposal would raise the state's tax to the national average. The Democrat says the increase would benefit public health and the state budget. The proposal is backed by a coalition of business, community and health groups. It would generate an extra 225 (m) million dollars a year for a variety of programs, including children's health insurance, business insurance assistance and cancer research. Governor Mark Sanford has proposed a 30-cents-per-pack increase, with the money used to cut the state's top income tax rate.

February 26, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 26, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

There's still almost a year until South Carolina's primary, but eleven G-O-P hopefuls will face their first test with voters in Spartanburg County during a straw poll this week. Organizers aren't expecting more than two-thousand people to cast ballots. But residents' phones have been ringing with recorded candidate messages, and mailboxes are filling with glossy campaign brochures in the run-up to Thursday's vote. Spartanburg isn't alone in testing the early political tides. Long shot contender U-S Representative Duncan Hunter won a straw poll in January in an Arizona county, and his campaign has bragged about winning in McCain's home state.

March 1, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 1, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The campaign is already negative as Republican presidential candidates face their first test in today's Spartanburg County straw poll. Organizers expect fewer than two thousand people to participate. But candidates have been using phone banks and campaign brochures to reach potential voters. A Columbia newspaper reports there have been anonymous mailings critical of former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney. One letter was a six-page attack on Romney's record on abortion, gun control, taxes and "conservative values." The State newspaper says an anonymous e-mail attacked Romney's Mormon faith and included a copy of a recent Associated Press story about how Romney's ancestors practiced polygamy. A Romney spokesman did --not-- immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

March 12, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 12, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Senate is considering a set of bills to change the state's Freedom of Information laws. One proposal would require public officials to respond to Freedom of Information requests within ten working days, instead of 15. A second would prevent governments from charging more for copies than the prevailing local photocopy costs. A third would require officials to read a statement before going into closed meetings that they will discuss only what they have said they would and would --not-- take votes or polls. A fourth would restrict public bodies from adding items to a meeting agenda within 24 hours of the meeting unless the item was of "substantial public interest." A fifth would limit discussions of public business at chance or social meeting and through the Internet.

March 13, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 13, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Lawmakers have removed part of a proposal that would have given local governments the authority to restrict indoor smoking. Instead, senators approved a bill banning smoking on school property. Senator Darrell Jackson says the state should allow municipalities to ban smoking in bars and restaurants but that issue should be debated separately from the school smoking ban. The decision comes less than a week after a judge ruled Greenville's smoking ban violated state law. Judge John Few wrote that the state's smoking laws supersede anything local governments can do. His ruling came three months after another judge dismissed a lawsuit challenging a similar smoking ban in Sullivan's Island. Both sides say a decision from the state Supreme Court or legislative action could clear up the issue statewide.

March 14, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 14, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

South Carolina House members have given key approval to a state budget that would cut income taxes, give state employees a pay raise and provide health insurance to poor children. Democrats tried unsuccessfully to remove a proposed 81 (m) million-dollar income tax cut from the 7-point-3 (b) billion-dollar budget. Tonight's vote was the key second nod given to the spending plan. Bills are rarely changed in the House before members take a so-called third reading needed for final approval. Though disappointed income tax relief went through, House Minority Leader Harry Ott voted for the budget anyway. Ott says he hopes lawmakers will eventually take a comprehensive look at the state's tax structure. The Senate begins budget debate next month.

March 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 16, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Several lawmakers upset over the election of a new transportation commissioner have protested the result. Joe Young of Georgetown has been chosen to represent the First Congressional District, but some legislators say he was elected without a formal meeting. Isle of Palms Senator Chip Campsen says the law requires legislators to meet for the election. He says the common practice has been for lawmakers to sign off on an appointment without meeting. Campsen says custom is --not-- more important than the law. He's sent a letter of protest to the secretary of state's office. The seat was vacated when the state Supreme Court ruled two commissioners were illegally reelected. Governor Mark Sanford says the election shows the need for change in the way the agency is governed.

March 17, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 17, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

South Carolina House members gave key approval Thursday to a state budget that would cut income taxes, give state employees a pay raise and provide health insurance to poor children. The \$7.3 billion budget passed despite lengthy debate on more than 300 proposed changes. Democrats tried unsuccessfully for three days to remove an \$81 million income tax cut, arguing the money would be better spent on health care, paving roads or other projects.

PRISONERS OF WAR: A South Carolina senator says the Pentagon needs to reinstate the term "prisoner of war" to properly recognize missing troops. A resolution advanced Wednesday to the state Senate floor asks the U.S. Congress to require the Defense Department to use the term "prisoner of war" instead of "missing/captured" as an official casualty status. The bill's sponsor, Sen. Ray Cleary, said veterans told him the new classification doesn't recognize what captured troops go through as prisoners of war.

ONLINE CLASSES: Students in public, private and home schools could take online courses for high school credit under legislation that received key approval Tuesday in the Senate. The proposal passed without debate after senators agreed to let

students enroll in the state's virtual school program on a first-come, first-serve basis, rather than give priority to public school students.

OPEN GOVERNMENT: Public officials would have to respond to requests for documents faster and copying charges would be limited under new open-government legislation introduced in the state Senate. The bills improve the foundation of the Freedom of Information Act in South Carolina and help reporters do their jobs, Sen. Thomas Alexander, R-Walhalla, said Tuesday. Alexander and other legislators held a news conference at the Statehouse during Sunshine Week, a nationwide effort to draw attention to the public's right to know what's going on in government.

March 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

U-S House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn says he used his influence to land a second Democratic presidential primary debate for South Carolina. The January 2008 debate will be carried on C-N-N. The Congressional Black Caucus Institute announced this week it would hold two Republican and two Democratic primary debates. South Carolina snagged one of the Democratic debates at Clyburn's urging. Clyburn says once Democrats took control of the House and Senate in January he asked the institute to bring a debate to South Carolina. Clyburn created the institute when he led the caucus. He says the debate will likely happen in Charleston or Myrtle Beach.

March 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Arizona Senator John McCain has announced a South Carolina finance committee that plops him right into the middle of the monied Palmetto State establishment in his G-O-P presidential primary bid. Fourteen of the 40 finance committee members announced today previously raised money for then-Texas Governor George Bush's 2000 bid or his 2004 presidential re-election bid. McCain met with members of the committee during a trip to Florence a few weeks ago at the home of wealthy heart surgeon Eddie Floyd, a top Bush fundraiser in 2000 and 2004. Others on the committee, including those with --no-- past Bush fundraising ties, include Camden lawyer and developer John Rainey, Batesburg-Leesville poultry processor Bill Amick and George Dean Johnson, co-founder of the Spartanburg-based payday lender Advance America.

March 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Democrat John Edwards is back in South Carolina today for the third big visit after launching a presidential bid he hopes will bring his native state's voters back into his fold. The former North Carolina senator will attend a private fundraising luncheon this afternoon before holding a college tour event at Benedict College. Last week, the South Carolina Republican Party jumped the gun, sending out a press release bashing Edwards' views on taxes a week before the Democrat's visit. Party officials said the release was sent by mistake. Edwards' campaign says the last time he was in South Carolina was on February 8th, when he raised money in Charleston and held a town-hall meeting on health care.

March 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Some lawmakers want an ultrasound machine in all abortion clinics, and they want women who want an abortion to look at the ultrasound pictures before making a final decision. "It does not do anything to a woman's choice, it just

adds information. As many a 85-percent of women who do an ultrasound choose to keep the child," said senator Kevin Bryant. At the Anderson Crisis Pregnancy Center, ultrasound machines are used frequently to deter women from having an abortion, they say most of the time it works. "We try to show the baby and show the baby's heart beat and that a baby is a baby. Most of the time she changes her mind and that's where our heart is," said Julie Dixon, director of Anderson Crisis Pregnancy Center. However, while supporters of the bill say it gives women seeking abortions more information, opponents argue the bill is a barrier to a woman's choice and a tool of intimidation. Planed Parenthood is one of those groups. "This is a misguided bill that does nothing but harm and intimidates women at a very crucial time in their lives and to say they need more information is insulting," said Chris Hollis, from Planned Parenthood. Chris Hollis goes on to say the bill puts politics in front of sound medicine. Still, even some lawmakers say the bill is likely to pass as a natural addition to the states informed consent law. The bill is currently in the state senate. If it passes there and then through the state house, it could become law as early as June.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

House Republicans pushed through a measure Tuesday that bans reporters from the floor of the chamber while lawmakers are in session. Reporters are now permitted to walk on to the floor to request an interview with a lawmaker outside the chamber. The change, introduced by House Speaker Glenn Richardson, would require reporters to seek interviews with lawmakers through student pages while lawmakers are in session. Reporters would be allowed on the floor immediately after the session is adjourned. Richardson said the measure puts the House in line with the state Senate, legislatures in other states and Congress. It passed by a 132-to-29 vote.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The chairman of a commission says a lawmaker who sponsored a 500-thousand dollar grant for a nonprofit medical clinic failed to disclose his ties to the facility. The program that authorized the request has come under fire from some lawmakers and Governor Mark Sanford, who say the program lacks oversight. The 22 (m) million dollar program allows local governments and nonprofit groups to apply for grants. It was created in 2005 to keep local projects out of the state budget. Spartanburg Representative Harold Mitchell sponsored the application for the Regenesis Community Health Center in Spartanburg. Mitchell is a nonvoting member of the Regenesis board. Commission Chairman Jimmy Bailey of Charleston says he would have rejected the grant if he had known about the relationship.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Ten Commandments could be posted in public buildings with other historical documents under a proposal on its way to the House floor. The bill would allow the Ten Commandments and the motto "In God We Trust" to be part of a 12-document display that includes an explanation of how they relate to the country's founding. The House Judiciary Committee approved the bill today after adding Martin Luther King Junior's "I Have a Dream" speech to the approved display. Others items include the Magna Carta, the Declaration of Independence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who is considering whether to run for president, said tonight that the personal lives of White House hopefuls shouldn't become an issue in the 2008 campaign. Earlier this month Gingrich went on Focus on the Family founder James Dobson's radio program to confess and seek forgiveness for his own extramarital affair committed while he pursued President Clinton's impeachment in the Monica Lewinsky

scandal. The former Georgia congressman said he's received a positive response from colleagues and others. Before a speech at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Gingrich said that whoever the Democratic and Republican presidential nominees are, he hoped they would discuss issues in a bipartisan manner and at length -- not just in short sound bites in the media. Gingrich said he would consider running for president this fall and that he had no idea who the nominees from each party would be.

March 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 23, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Democratic presidential contender John Edwards says his wife's cancer has returned, but his campaign for the White House will continue. At a news conference in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, with his wife Elizabeth by his side, Edwards told reporters "the campaign goes on strongly." Elizabeth Edwards was diagnosed with breast cancer in the final days of the 2004 presidential campaign. She underwent several months of radiation and chemotherapy. John Edwards said a biopsy of her rib showed the cancer was back and had spread to the bones. Once in the bones, it is not considered curable, though Edwards did call it "treatable." At today's news conference, Elizabeth Edwards said she doesn't feel "sickly" and described herself "as ready as any person can be" to deal with it. She said she encouraged her husband to continue the campaign.

March 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 23, 2007 5a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

President Bush vowed to veto a measure pushed through the House by Democrats on Friday that would order the commander-in-chief to withdraw U.S. combat troops from Iraq by September 2008. "I will veto it if it comes to my desk," Bush said from the White House Diplomatic Reception Room joined by family members of veterans and troops in combat. Bush called the measure by Democrats "an act of political theater voted to substitute their judgment for that of our military commanders on the ground in Iraq." Democrats won passage by a 218-212 vote on the \$124 billion war spending bill, which will fund the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Bush has promised to veto the measure. "Today, this Congress faces a historic vote. A vote to truly change the direction of the Iraqi conflict," said Rep. Rahm Emanuel, D-III., just before the vote. Rep. John Boehner, R-Ohio, also called the vote "historic," urging colleagues to vote against the measure. "Our troops are on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan, doing their duty to protect freedom and to end tyranny," House Minority Leader Boehner said. "They're there watching this debate we're having in the House today and wondering, 'Will Congress do its duty? Will Congress stand up and support he mission that I'm in?' "The vote puts Congress closer to a showdown with the White House over Bush's Iraq policy. Bush will veto the bill, White House spokesman Tony Snow told reporters at Friday's briefing. "Look, the president's going to veto this bill, and he's going to veto it because even though it provides some funding, it also puts handcuffs on generals, colonels, lieutenant colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants, sergeants, corporals, privates, and everybody else," Snow said. Most Republicans opposed the Democrats' plan, which also included budget requests not related to war spending. "What we got instead was a poorly assembled wish list of non-emergency spending requests, wrapped in a date-certain declaration of defeat - a confirmation to our enemies that, if they hang on just a bit longer, we'll be out of their way soon," said Rep. Roy Blunt, R-Mo. Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., told fellow lawmakers a vote against the bill would be a vote against funding for the troops, health care and military families. "You're voting against supporting the troops if you're voting against the money that goes to the troops," Murtha said. Bush urged Congress to approve the bill without a timeline during a meeting Thursday with his Iraqi civilian reconstruction team. "The Congress owes you the money you need to do the job, without any strings attached." he said. "Congress needs to get their business done quickly, get the monies we've requested funded and let our folks on the ground do the job." Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned that if Congress fails to pass a measure funding the war efforts by April 15, it will slow down training of troops scheduled for future deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. Gates says it would also delay repair of equipment. Meanwhile, the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday approved a \$121 billion version of Bush's emergency war spending request, but bucked the White House by putting in language that sets a date-specific timeframe for withdrawing troops from Iraq. The Senate bill sets a March 31, 2008, goal for withdrawing all combat troops out of Iraq. The legislation, which also gobs on billions in special projects at home, now heads to the Senate floor for a vote by the full chamber. "I think the only way we can succeed in Iraq is by fundamentally changing the dynamic," said Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, who

chairs the subcommittee that oversees military funding. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's measure to set a timeline for the withdrawal of troops failed last week by a 50-48 vote. The House measure is unlikely to get through the Senate unchanged, where many Democrats oppose a timetable on the war.

Attachments

Jobs, Economy, Growth

ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED FIRST QUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: JOBS/ECONOMY/GROWTH

<u>DATE</u> <u>TIME</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

January 8, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

January 8, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Farm-supply cooperative Southern States has shut down 115 stores in six years, many falling victim to urban sprawl. The Richmond, Virginia-based company owned or managed 327 stores across the Southeast at the end of fiscal year 2000, but now has only 212. Company spokesman Jim Erickson says many shutdowns were driven by the gradual decline of agricultural lands. When there's less land, fewer farmers need fertilizer, feed and equipment. Southern States operates in Alabama, Delaware, Florida, Kentucky, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia.

January 10, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 10, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Quality of life drew a Florida printing company looking to relocate their operations to the South Carolina Upstate. Company chief executive Larry Kudeviz says Genesis Press Incorporated will begin operating its new printing plant on U-S Highway 25 in April. Genesis Press will employ at least 100 people in an existing 61-thousand-square-foot building within two years. About 60 of the jobs will be filled locally and the rest will be employees transferring from Miami. Unskilled workers will make between eight and 14 dollars an hour. Skilled workers, such as press operators, will make 15 to 25 dollars. The company prints religious and paperback books, as well as medical and health care directories.

January 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 15, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Proposed tax breaks to lure a Google computer hub to the North Carolina foothills are adding up. If Google brings its operation to Caldwell County, state and local tax breaks could total more than 100 (m) million dollars for the next three decades. About 96 (m) million dollars of the total would be from state tax incentives. The Caldwell County Economic Development Commission and Duke Energy bought 150 acres to build a business park for Google. The land was rezoned by the city of Lenoir to allow such a facility. Google's proposed investment is roughly half the tax base of the city. Local governments have agreed to forgo property and real estate taxes for 30 years if Google moves to Caldwell County. Traditionally a furniture manufacturing hub, but the industry has been in decline in Caldwell County for the past several years. The roughly 34-hundred unemployed people in the county would need specialized training to compete for a job with Google.

January 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 22, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The unemployment rate in South Carolina was unchanged last month, at six-point-six percent. South Carolina had the nation's fourth highest unemployment rate for the year. Only Mississippi, Michigan and Alaska had higher unemployment rates. The nation's jobless rate last month was four-and-a-half percent. A spokesman for Governor Mark Sanford says the unemployment figures don't reflect what is happening in South Carolina. Joel Sawyer says the labor force is growing faster than businesses are hiring. The Employment Security Commission says the manufacturing sector lost 46-hundred jobs last year. Allendale County had the highest jobless rate at 13-point-nine percent in December. Beaufort County had the lowest rate, at three-point-nine percent.

January 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 22, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The sound of drills and saws filled the football stadium at Boiling Springs High 9th Grade Campus. Production crews were transforming their football field into a 1920's gridiron for George Clooney's movie 'Leatherhead.' Nearby retailers, and residents hope the filming brings more business to their town. "I think it's exciting. I think it will bring some good publicity around and hopefully some business and everything into town," said Heather Carraway a resident. For many business owners it's about more than big dollars. They hope the romantic comedy flick will boost morale with the schools own football team. "They are good but they need a little bit of encouragement and this will do it, said Kathy, a resident. For now construction is what's happening, though publicists won't confirm Boiling Springs High as a filming location for the movie. So far a snack stand has been turned into a 1920's announcement box. Still to come are wooden bleachers to add to the nostalgia. Filming of the movie will begin in February.

January 23, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 23, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The minimum wage bill has run aground for now. By a 54-to-43 vote, the Senate has rejected efforts to advance the legislation. Two weeks ago, the House passed the measure which would raise the minimum wage from five dollars and 15 cents an hour to seven-25. Opponents say the increase must be accompanied by new tax breaks for restaurants and other businesses that rely on low-paid workers. The vote sends a message to House Democrats and liberals in the Senate that only a hybrid tax-and-minimum-wage package will succeed in the Senate. Raising the minimum wage is one of the new Democratic Congress' top priorities. It hasn't changed in ten years.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

N-C-R Corporation says it is moving some production to South Carolina. The Ohio-based company said it will have Solectron Corporation of California make its automated teller machines and check-out scanners for the next five years. N-C-R had previously said it planned to outsource production of its A-T-M's among its overseas plants to save money. Today the company says it will transfer production from its manufacturing operations in Dallas, Canada and Sao Paulo, Brazil, to Solectron sites in Columbia (South Carolina), Mexico and another plant in Brazil. Terms of the contract were --not-- disclosed. No word on how many jobs might be affected.

January 25, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 25, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

Michelin North America has landed a ten-year, one-point-seven (b) billion dollar contract with the Defense Department. Michelin spokeswoman Lynn Mann says the contract involves supplying tires from Michelin and other firms to the U-S military for its ground-wheeled vehicles. It comes several weeks after Michelin won a 700 (m) million dollar contract to supply tires for the military's aircraft tires. The company says Michelin will provide 100 percent of the military's ground tire needs through its own and competitive tire sourcing. Michelin North America is headquarters in Greenville.

February 2, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 2, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Governor's Conference on Tourism and Travel opens today in Spartanburg and those at the meeting expect to hear plans for the future of the 15 (b) billion dollar industry. Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director Chad Prosser is to discuss the plan. This week's conference includes sessions on culinary tourism, how attractions can get free publicity and new trends in Internet marketing. Governor Mark Sanford is to address the gathering tomorrow. The state had about 32-and-a-half (m) million visitors in 2005. That's up about two-and-a-half (m) million people from 2004. The average spending per visitor during their stay was 303 dollars, up from 270 dollars the year before. Sanford has proposed spending 13 (m) million dollars more for tourism advertising next year.

February 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 20, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A mortgage company in York County says it is eliminating 250 jobs because of the slowdown in the national housing market. Wells Fargo Home Mortgage officials said yesterday changing market conditions forced the cuts. Wells Fargo has about two thousand employees at its office in Fort Mill. Senior Vice President Jim Wyble says about 17-hundred-50 employees at a loan customer service center will --not-- be affected by the layoffs. The workers affected process customer loans. Wyble says the company has 200 open positions in its Fort Mill service center and will try to fit those affected by the cuts into those vacant positions. The company says those losing their jobs will get benefits based on the length of service with the company.

February 27, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 28, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

U.S. stocks suffered their worst one-day slide in more than eight months Tuesday, driving the blue-chip Dow average down more than 200 points, after China's main equity index plunged on concerns that share valuations there had become overextended. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 214.38 points, or 1.70 percent, at 12,417.88. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index was down 32.77 points, or 2.26 percent, at 1,416.60. The Nasdaq Composite Index was down 71.79 points, or 2.87 percent, at 2,432.73. That sent shivers of fear down Wall Street's spine and prompted investors to dump the shares of companies that rely heavily on Chinese demand, including Caterpillar Inc. (CAT), which was the Dow's biggest decliner. The New York Stock Exchange said it instituted trading curbs at 1:03 p.m. amid the plunge in the U.S. stock market. The CBOE Volatility Index, known as Wall Street's "fear gauge," shot up 23.3 percent - its biggest one-day jump since July. "We've got a big correction in China and that kind of precipitated" the sell-off," said Todd Clark, director of stock trading at Nollenberger Capital Partners in San Francisco. "I think that most of this is because the Chinese government ... has suggested they are going to try to take some steps to curb speculation." All three major U.S. stock indexes broke below their 60-day moving averages - a sign that the momentum that has carried U.S. stocks through a record run higher from July has begun to stall. Caterpillar, the U.S. heavy equipment maker which does extensive business in China, dropped 2.8 percent to \$65.39 on the New York Stock Exchange. All 30 stocks in the blue-chip Dow average were in the red. The Philadelphia Stock Exchange's semiconductor index slid 1.9 percent, its second-sharpest slide for the year, falling 1.7 percent. Before Tuesday's opening bell, Wall Street was already reeling from the China shock when it received more bad news from the U.S. government. New orders for U.S.-made durable goods - big-ticket items like washing machines and refrigerators meant to last three years or more - plummeted 7.8 percent in January, a much bigger-than-expected drop. The durable goods data increased worries about slower economic growth and gave investors a reason to sell shares of technology companies, including Cisco Systems Inc. (CSCO), which was among the biggest negative influences on the Nasdaq and the S&P 500. The mood was cast for the day when China's Shanghai Composite Index dropped almost 9 percent on fears that the government would crack down on speculation that has driven stock prices there to record highs. If China increases its interest rates, analysts fear that move would slow growth in China, and that in turn would hurt the outlook for corporate profits just as investors grapple with signs of a slowdown in the United States. In overseas stock trading, the FTSEurofirst 300 index ended down 2.9 percent. Shares of Latin American stocks fell between 3 percent and 4.5 percent. Weighing on the technology sector, shares of Apple Inc. (APPL) slid 3.3 percent to \$85.75 and were the biggest negative influence on the Nasdaq 100 after the maker of computers and portable music players said it will delay its Apple TV device until mid-March. Cisco's shares fell 2.9 percent to \$26.46 on Nasdaq. Transportation and financial services stocks, among bellwether sectors, also tumbled. The Dow Jones Transportation Average was down 2.2 percent, while an S&P

Financial Index was down 1.6 percent. The concerns about the U.S. economy came a day after former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan was quoted as saying a recession was possible in 2007. Although the sharp drop in durable goods orders caught Wall Street off guard, other U.S. economic data painted a more positive picture. The Conference Board said its index of consumer sentiment edged up slightly more than expected in February and the National Association of Realtors said the pace of U.S. existing home sales was stronger than expected in January. In earnings news, shares of Nordstrom Inc. (JWN) fell 6 percent to \$53.25 on the NYSE after the upscale department store chain posted fourth-quarter earnings that trailed analysts' average forecast by a penny. Even after Target Corp. (TGT) posted a quarterly profit that beat Wall Street's forecasts, shares of the No. 2 U.S. discount store chain fell 2.9 percent to \$60.76. Bucking the trend, shares of RadioShack Corp. shot up 12.3 percent to \$25.21 and topped the NYSE's list of percentage gainers after the electronics retailer forecast stronger-than-expected 2007 profit.

February 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 28, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

South Carolina residents took a collective shot in the wallet this week as gas prices jumped earlier in the season than expected. The average price per gallon of regular hit two dollars and 23 cents today. Triple-A Carolinas says that's up nearly 16 cents from last year and up more than 27 cents than a month ago. The highest price for a gallon of regular gas in the state was three dollars and 15 cents. That was set on May 5th, 2005. The national average is two-37. Triple-A Carolinas says the typical springtime price increase in early- to mid-March arrived sooner than normal because of global uncertainty about Iran's nuclear emissions, which have affected crude oil prices.

March 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 15, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The chief executive of B-M-W says the company hopes to increase the number of cars it builds in South Carolina within the next three years. B-M-W's Norbert Reithofer says the company hopes to build more than 200-thousand vehicles a year at Greer by 2010. B-M-W's annual production capacity in Greer is currently around 140-thousand vehicles. B-M-W's new X-6 model will be produced in Greer from 2008 as part of the company's effort to increase capacity in the United States. The United States is B-M-W's top market.

March 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A new study says South Carolina is among the top five most business-friendly states in the U-S. Virginia nabbed the first spot in this year's independent study called Top Ten Pro-Business States: Americas Economy in the 21st Century. The evaluation of state and federal economic development policies was produced by Pollina Corporate Real Estate Incorporated, a corporate relocation firm. South Carolina, Florida, North Carolina and Utah rounded out the Top Five in this year's survey. The Palmetto State was the Number Two most business-friendly state last year. The Pollina study evaluated states based on 28 factors -- including taxes, human resources, labor climate, energy costs, infrastructure spending, government incentive programs, workers compensation legislation and jobs lost or gained.

March 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 20, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

The Greenville County Council recommended against the proposed SuperTarget on Pelham Road during their meeting Monday night, after they heard arguments from both sides. Now, the developer of the property has other plans for it. A proposed mixed-use development to include about 500 homes and some smaller shops. However, some say traffic is still their biggest concern. Anthony Schumate, one commuter, said, "I come to work around 5 or 5:30 and traffic is backed up." He doesn't think anything built on the 86-acre property is a good idea. On the other hand, there are some who say new shops would be a good thing. Lucille Maltby, a shopper, said, "Like I said, probably people that live in this area would [be opposed to the development] but me, no. Because I love to shop." She works on Pelham road, but says the traffic doesn't bother her. The developer plans on implementing street improvements and heavy buffers. Still, some are concerned about the noise pollution the new development would bring. At this point, the council is simply considering this as an alternative.

March 21, 2007 The Ten O'clock News
March 21, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

A House panel took an early step today toward creating a statewide wireless network. The proposal that advanced to committee would create a commission to study expanding high-speed Internet access statewide by allowing private companies to partner with South Carolina Education Television. Companies would pay to develop the network and use E-T-V's bandwidth to reach customers. Advocates say it would bring long-needed high-speed Internet access to rural areas of the state, aiding education and economic development, while also improving communication among police and other first responders.

March 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 22, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

If you drive through downtown Spartanburg, you're probably passing orange barrels, hearing a lot of noise and seeing mounds of dirt. Some say all of it is a good thing and they welcome the sound of progress. "More foot traffic, the better, and more people, the livelier," said Ishita Shah. She owns Cafe Ishi, a coffee shop in downtown. "It's great when customers come back and they remember it as the Palmetto Theater and they talk about their past memories and the new memories they are making down here," said Shah. As more people invest, they are putting the sparkle back in "Sparkle City." "There's sort of a buzz about town and people are real excited to be part of that," said Julie Franklin, the Director of Economic Development for the City of Spartanburg. There are plans for a cultural center, new banks, businesses and a new project for condos. "People living and working and playing in downtown. I see it as a 24-hour downtown. A great place to do business a great place to eat and shop," said Franklin. It seems like every time you look around there's a ribbon cutting ceremony, which could mean more jobs. "You're just seeing the tip of the iceberg of what's going to happen in downtown in the future," said Andrew Babb, a Spartanburg resident. In fact, there are more than a dozen projects going on. So those orange barrels won't be rolled away anytime soon, or that construction equipment turned off. In the end, some say Spartanburg will be a different place. "I think we will start seeing a lot more people down here, a lot of restaurants, some upscale restaurants, just more night life," said Babb.

March 30, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 30, 2007 5:00a-9:00am The Morning News

Description:

South Carolina's unemployment rate fell to six-point-one percent last month, down three tenths of one percentage point from January. The Employment Security Commission says the improvement from six-point-four percent dropped the state from the second worst rate to the third worst rate in the country. South Carolina is tied with Alaska. Only Mississippi's six-point-seven percent and Michigan's six-point-six percent are worse. A spokesman for Governor Mark Sanford says there are 170-thousand more people working now than when he took office in 2003. The government added 45-hundred jobs last month. But manufacturing lost 13-hundred jobs. Marion County had the highest unemployment rate at 13-point-six percent. Lexington County had the best rate at four-point-six percent.

Attachments

Quality of Life

ADDRESSING PROBLEM/NEED FIRST QUARTER 2007

Problem/Need: **QUALITY OF LIFE**

<u>DATE</u> <u>TIME</u> <u>PROGRAM</u>

Mon-Fri. 9:00am The 700 Club

<u>DESCRIPTION:</u> The 700 Club is a live television program that airs weekdays before studio audience from the Christian Broadcasting Network in Virginia Beach, VA. The 700 Club is a mix of news and commentary, interviews, feature stories, and Christian ministry. (60:00)

Sundays 9:30 am TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>: A church service that airs every Sunday morning. (30:00)

Sundays 10:00am DAY OF DISCOVERY

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>: A religious program that airs every Sunday morning. (30:00)

January 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 15, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

U-S Senator Joseph Biden of Delaware is in the Columbia area today, participating in Martin Luther King Day events. Biden says he would have voted to take the Confederate flag off Statehouse grounds if he had been in the South Carolina Legislature. Lawmakers voted in 2000 to move the flag from the Statehouse dome to a flagpole in front of the building. The Democratic presidential candidate says dealing with the flag involves dealing with people's hearts. He says the flag will move when people realize how hurtful an image it is to other people. Biden is at Brookland Baptist Church in West Columbia, along with U-S Senator Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, also a Democratic presidential candidate. Dodd says he thinks the flag should be removed from the Statehouse grounds.

January 15, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 15, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s words are still powerful, and his determination is still an inspiration to many. "We're here to celebrate Martin Luther King's life," said Robert Reeder, Spartanburg Councilman, District 3. Hundreds packed the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium in honor of Dr. King's legacy. "The words judge people by the content of their character, not the color of their skin still resonate with me today," said Trey Gowdy, 7th Circuit Solicitor. As the Voices of Diversity Choir sang songs and people in the crowd clapped their hands, the celebration began. However, back in the 1960's this type of event would have never happened. Now, years later there's a sense of unity. "In a lot of ways our country has made tremendous strides. In other ways and I see it in my job on a regular basis, there's still a gap or divide and we need to keep working hard," said Gowdy. Some say Dr. King helped make those positive changes. "He did it through peaceful marching and talking and showing that you can come together and get things changed," said Reeder. Reginald Lloyd, the U.S. District Attorney of South Carolina, was the keynote speaker. He told the crowd how King became his role model and how he's helped change the country. King wasn't the only one honored. Workers from BMW and the Piedmont Community Actions organization received the MLK Humanitarian Excellence Award for their community service. Some people say the event showed that King's dream lives on.

January 22, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 22, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

The American College of Physicians says the state of the nation's health care is inadequate, and widespread reform is needed. Doctor Lynne Kirk, president of the group, says Medicare, Medicaid and other government-backed health programs need to change to what she calls patient-centered care. Such a system calls for the primary care doctor to work with patients to manage their health care. She says "our system's become very fragmented" with patients seeing a number of specialists who may not be aware of "what the other doctor's doing." Kirk says even patients with private insurance coverage are finding that their primary care physician doesn't have enough time or resources to provide them with comprehensive health care. In the 2007 State of the Nation's Health Care report, the medical group says too many doctors are leaving their practices because of the patient load and inadequate government reimbursement. The report also notes that fewer medical interns and residents are opting to becoming primary care physicians. The doctor's group says there is also a need to develop affordable health insurance plans for the estimated 47 (m) million uninsured people in this country.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

They are much older and some are grandparents, but eight of nine black men who participated in a Rock Hill civil rights protest in 1961 are gathering for a remembrance ceremony. The eight are going back to McCrory's lunch counter in Rock Hill to reenact the event of January 31st, 1961, when they were arrested for attempting to be served. The nine decided to stay in jail, instead of making bail. The protest helped bring the spotlight on discrimination when the civil rights movement in the South was losing momentum. One of the nine died in August. A plaque will mark the spot where they were carted off to jail. Clarence Graham says the group was --not-- out to make history at the time, but they are back to remind people how things were just decades ago.

January 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News January 24, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Did you know that registered sex offenders move an average of four times a year making it harder and harder to track them down? This is why the Greenville County Sheriff's Office has made tracking them down a whole lot easier. These days a good location and school system aren't the only things to consider when moving into a neighborhood. On Wednesday, Sheriff Steve Loftis announced a new computer program available on their web site called "Offender Watch" that can make your neighborhood safer. By simply putting in your address, you can see how many sex offenders live within a one mile radius. Loftis said, "If I can use it anyone can use it." The company who made the web site says Greenville County has 750 registered sex offenders and more than 80-percent of people live within one mile of them. Vice President of "Offender Watch" said, "This provides the tool to track down offenders, map them from your home to your day cares." The National Sex Offender Registry works just as well, but not only is this program easier to navigate according to the sheriff's department, but registered users will also get an e-mail notification if a sex offender moves to their neighborhood. http://www.gcso.org/ http://www.gcso.org/

February 2, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 2, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

A memorial with a reflecting pool, sculptures, a fountain and a wall describing the 95-year history of the Charleston Naval Base will be dedicated July Fourth. Work starts today on the three (m) million dollar memorial on the Cooper River beside North Charleston's new Riverfront Park. The memorial is dedicated to the thousands of uniformed men and women as well civilians who worked there and at the Charleston Naval Shipyard. Almost 26-thousand people worked at the complex and shipyard during World War Two. There were still nearly 22-thousand people working at the base when plans were announced in 1993 to close it. The memorial will feature sculptures of a submarine, a landing craft and a destroyer.

February 19, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 19, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

The work-out at Nautilus Fitness Center in Spartanburg can be tough. Those who are exercising by pumping and pushing it are showing what they're made of. It takes strength and motivation to move the weights they're handling, but it is nothing like the weight 2nd Lt. Andrew Kinard carried and accepted for our country. He used to work at the gym just before he took his strength and dedication to the battlegrounds of Iraq. "We were in shock, but just relieved that God has spared his life," said John Lankford, owner of they gym. While on the frontline a roadside bomb exploded, and Kinard lost both of his legs. "There are men and women all over the country just like Andrew and this is the way we can show them how much we appreciate what they're doing," said Lankford. So as 2nd Lt. Andrew Kinard recovers, his presence is still at the gym. Lankford is hosting a bench and curl contest to help raise money for Kinard. "God is going to use this for his glory and we pray for Andrew each and everyday," said Lankford. Employees are also selling t-shirts with Kinard's picture and the words "Giving up is not an option" printed on them, we're told it is something he often says. Competitors are asking for sponsors to donate \$0.50 or a \$1.00 for every bench press. It is small change they say for a young man who sacrificed so much. The contest will take place March 3 at Nautilus Fitness Center. Weigh-in time is from 10:00 AM until 11:30 AM, and the contest will begin at noon. If you are competing, the entry fee is \$25.00.

February 28, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News February 28, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Roy Williams can recall the days when he couldn't afford to buy a bottle of Coca-Cola, even when it cost just a dime. Today, the North Carolina coach can afford all the Cokes he wants, but he shares those early years in Asheville in a 30-second national commercial. The ad features Williams talking about playing ball in the 1960s with his buddies at Biltmore School and then going down to a local gas station for Cokes. While his friends drank soda, Williams said he chose water because he didn't want his friends to know he didn't have a dime. Williams says once his mother -- who did ironing at home to make extra money -- found out her only son wasn't drinking Cokes, she left a dime for young Roy each morning. The ad also shows Williams in his office, where there's a refrigerator full of bottled Cokes.

March 5, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 5, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Time is running out for the national Episcopal Church to approve the election of the Very Reverend Mark Lawrence as the new bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina. Lawrence is a conservative elected last summer in a landslide. But his election requires the approval of a majority of the Episcopal bishops and standing committees in the church around the country before he can be consecrated as bishop. If Lawrence is --not-- approved by Monday, church law requires a new election. A majority of the nation's bishops have approved the election. But the Reverend J. Haden McCormick says only 46 committees have approved the election. McCormick says approval is needed by 56 committees. The diocese is comprised of 75 parishes in the lower and eastern part of South Carolina.

March 8, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 8, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

In just two days three churches have been burglarized all of them in Greenville County. Faith Baptist Church on Highway 14, Clear Springs Baptist Church on Bethany Road and Immanuel Lutheran Church on Woodruff Road. Deputies now believe they may all be connected because they share a lot of similarities. In all of the burglaries the church's glass door was smashed open with a rock. Here at Immanuel Lutheran Church, the burglars threw a rock right threw the door. The burglars also bypassed expensive televisions and computers and headed straight for the sanctuary. The burglars didn't take anything at Faith Baptist, but some musical equipment was stolen from Clear Springs Baptist Church. Lynn Peden said, "They passed by our sound equipment all those things. The microphones they stole, and without the receivers those they won't work." Same scenario, but a different rock was used at Immanuel Lutheran Church. Here the burglars also bypassed computers and headed straight to the sanctuary. Tim Roggow said, "It was a \$700 guitar, hole up towards the top, it might stand out a little more than others." Roggow teaches children at Immanuel Lutheran. He says breaking the news of the stolen guitar was probably hardest on them. He said, "The kids asked why I wasn't playing, I told them the guitar was stolen. One kid said, 'Well, I have one,' and one kid said, 'You can buy one at Wal-Mart.'" Pastor Jeff Vanosdol said he got the call about break-in around nine o'clock Tuesday night. At first he thought it was just a false alarm. He said, "The usual procedure is the sheriff's department is called if the alarm goes off, I told them to go ahead because I couldn't check it out myself. I'm glad I didn't because the alarm was going off and there was a hole in the window." Besides the door nothing else was damaged. He said, "In the 16 years I guess we've been here, false alarms, this one was for real." The only thing stolen was a guitar, unless you also count their sense of security. He said, "We will say a prayer for those who did this, certainly they need our prayers more than we need a guitar." In total the burglars caused about \$2,000 worth of damages. If you have any information call Crime Stoppers at 23-CRIME.

March 12, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 12, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Officials say 120-thousand dollars has been raised to bring back to South Carolina National Guard members before they are deployed to Afghanistan. About 14-hundred Guard members are training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, but get a ten-day break before heading overseas. The money will give the members of the 218th Brigade Combat Team round-trip bus fare for the trip next month. House Speaker Bobby Harrell says businesses and individuals have contributed the money for the trip. An additional 400 guard members are training at Fort Riley, Kansas. The Newberry based brigade will train members of the Afghan Army and police. Some will deploy with Afghan military units in the field. The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce helped with the fund-raising effort.

March 16, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 16, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

For the first time in more than 70 years the Episcopal Church has thrown out a bishop's election. The election of the Very Reverend Mark Lawrence by the Diocese of South Carolina was invalidated today by the Episcopal Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori. Jefferts Schori decided the South Carolina Diocese and others had failed to submit proper written consent for the election as required by church law. Lawrence's election became a flash point in the denomination's struggle over whether parishioners with conflicting views of the Bible on gays and other issues could stay in the same denomination. Officials of the South Carolina Diocese, which includes 75 parishes in the lower and eastern part of the state, plan to meet within the next couple of weeks to decide their next step. Acting Bishop Edward Salmon, who is retiring from the South Carolina post, will remain until a new bishop is consecrated.

March 19, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

War protests and vigils are also scheduled for Monday. The demonstrations started over the weekend. People showed up in downtown Greenville Sunday night to remember those who've died during the Iraq war. The observance honored not only U.S. service members, but also Iraqis who've died. The event was held by the Greenville Anti-War Society. Monday night, a candlelight vigil to honor fallen and wounded troops will take place on the Clemson Unitarian Fellowship lawn. The vigil starts at 7 o'clock, on Pendleton Road. Also on Monday night, another candle light vigil to remember fallen soldiers will be at 7:30 in Asheville. This one will be on College Street in front of city hall and the courthouse. During the vigil, the group plans to call for Congress to end the war. At 6 o'clock on Monday night in Seneca, a letter from a local soldier who spent time serving in Iraq, will be read during a candlelight vigil. The service will be in the park across the street from Seneca's Public Library.

March 18, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 19, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

The search for a Boy Scout who disappeared during a camping trip in a North Carolina park resumed on Monday after the child's mess kit was found about three-quarters of a mile from where he last was seen in Doughton Park. Some 70 ground searchers, a state police helicopter and five dog teams picked up the search for Michael Auberry, who wandered away from his troop's campsite two days ago in the rugged terrain of the Blue Ridge Parkway. "The most probable thing is that he walked away, went out in the woods and went to investigate," said David Bauer, a ranger with the parkway. Auberry, of Greensboro, has been a Scout for about a year and has a first-class rank, his father, Kent Auberry, told the Winston-Salem Journal. The scout's parents said he likes to camp but doesn't like the cold. He last was seen wearing a red coat and hiking boots, and has had survival training lessons with the Boy Scouts but no means to start a fire, Bauer said. Rescuers were expected to search the area between the campsite and where Auberry's mess kit was found. "He's trained to seek shelter at night, cover himself up with leaves" for warmth, Bauer said. Trails and fire roads, as well as rugged off-road areas were being looked at in the search, Bauer said. About 10 scouts and their three adult leaders of Troop 230 noticed Auberry was missing after eating lunch together Saturday. Bauer said Auberry stayed behind with an adult leader while the rest of the troop went for a hike Saturday "because apparently he wanted to sleep in." The troop members returned and ate lunch with Auberry and the leader. Soon after, between 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m., they noticed Auberry was missing from the camp, he said. Searchers overnight Saturday found part of Auberry's mess kit less than a mile from the camp, he said. Bauer said he's not aware of Auberry having any arguments or problems with the troop or his family. Temperatures were expected to drop into the 20s for a second straight night Sunday but rise into the upper 50s on Monday. Debbie Hayes, Michael's mother, said he was wearing a red heavy outer coat and an inner fleece coat, and had gloves and a hat in a pocket. He was wearing a dark blue University of North Carolina Tar Heels baseball cap. Search crews have included volunteer firefighters, National Park Service staff and rescue squads from the state park system and Alleghany and Wilkes counties. A Highway Patrol helicopter equipped with an infrared sensor that can detect body heat was sent to assist the search.

March 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 20, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

FOX News is reporting they have confirmation from park rangers that Michael Auberry, the Boy Scout who went missing in the North Carolina mountains on Saturday, has been found alive.

March 20, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 20, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Following a trend that began last year, the minor-league Asheville Tourists are inviting local churches to host programs at home games this season. It's part of a promotion called Worship Wednesdays at McCormick Field. The Tourists and local Clear Channel radio stations will sponsor opportunities to combine fellowship and service, as well as a program to benefit Western Carolina Rescue Ministries. For every ticket purchased by church groups on Wednesdays, the Tourists will donate a dollar to rescue ministries. On August 22nd, the Tourists will provide free tickets to the homeless residing at the ministries' shelter, and those guests will also receive a free hot dog, chips and a soft drink. Faith Nights made their mark on sporting events across the Southeast and the rest of the nation last year. A company based in Nashville, Tennessee, planned the nights with the Atlanta Braves and Arena Football's Birmingham franchise.

March 21, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 21, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

Michael Auberry, the 12-year-old Boy Scout who went missing in the North Carolina mountains over the weekend, was found Tuesday by a searcher and her rescue dog. Turns out, both the dog and his handler are from the upstate. The rescue dog, Gandalf, and his handler, Misha Marshall are from Chesnee, a small town Spartanburg County. Tuesday was the duo's first day volunteering in the search for the missing 12-year-old. Misha and Gandalf are among the six people and five dogs who volunteer with the South Carolina Search and Rescue Dog Association. She says when Gandalf saw Michael, it was simply unbelievable. A reporter asked Marshall, "When he saw you, what did he do? "Marshall responded, "He was glad. He was very glad. It took him a while to realize we were friendly." Misha and Gandalf are expected to return to the upstate on Wednesday.

March 24, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News

Description:

Some 45 people from several states protested a Hendersonville ordinance that prohibits street preaching without a permit. Demonstrators said they came from North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee to show support for a pastor who was jailed Friday for violating the ordinance. Billy Ball is a pastor from Primrose, Georgia, who was arrested for violating the ordinance. It was his third preaching trip to Hendersonville, about 18 miles south of Asheville. Participants say Ball doesn't want his 110-dollar-bond posted so he can challenge the ordinance in court. His first court appearance is scheduled for Monday. Hendersonville police Captain John Nicholson told demonstrators the city hasn't denied a permit in some 30 years. Even so, the street preachers say the ban violates their free speech.

March 26, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 26, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

With filming set for Sunday, Lakeview Middle School has been transformed into the set of "Leatherheads." About 20 Model-T and Model-A Fords are being used as props. Dozens of people have been driving by to see what all the talk is about. "Yea you see a lot of people come by from out of town taking pictures and recording and all of that," said Tommy Anglin, one resident. Aside from the old cars, crews built a stadium wall. Behind it lies a 1920's style gridiron. "Oh, they took down the regular metal goal posts. They took down the lights and they just made a whole different football field," said Anglin. From the bleachers to an advertising wall, it's all part of the set. Residents say crews started building a few days ago and the transformation has been amazing. "I think it's pretty amazing. We have not had anything like this my whole life I have been here." said another resident.

March 30, 2007 10:00pm The Ten O'clock News March 30, 2007 5-7pm The Morning News

Description:

He grew up in Laurens County, and through the years Willie Johnson, the little southern boy from the country wanted to do and see big things. After high school, he signed up to serve in the Army, and ended up in Vietnam at 18-years-old. He remembers being in an airport waiting for his unit to be taken out of a war zone, when he noticed dozen of body bags. "These 30 body bags. Someone started unzipping bags, because we thought they were Vietnamese bodies, but they were American bodies, said Johnson. He calls the experience traumatic, but one that made him grow up quickly. He received the bronze medal for his leadership and somehow, his journey led him back south, to Greenville and the police department as a patrol officer. "My first day, I almost quit because I wasn't sure if this was the right job for me. I still had reservations. I was still thinking about Washington, D.C.," said Johnson. He still wanted to see the big city, but he says something kept him here- a calling for service. So, from patrol officer to sergeant, to lieutenant, to captain to major when in 1996 he saw death again. This time, one of his fellow detectives, Russ Sorrow was shot and killed. "I've made some great friends here. I've seen people at their best and at their worst," said Johnson. Then, in 2000, he became police chief and says his training got tested early. "We had an armed robbery hostage situation at McDonald's on Laurens Road," said Johnson. Robbers inside took hostages at gunpoint and refused to come out. He went to the scene to help with negotiations, he'd seen death before, and didn't want to see it there. Eventually, the gunmen surrendered. "I think I made a contribution or at least I tried to make some contribution to law enforcement and to the community, and so I'm happy," said Johnson. Honored for his service through the years, he received the Order of the Palmetto, the highest honor in the state. He's also known as the technology chief. "We have over 100 computers that we refer to as MDT's in our patrol cars, we have over 110 cameras downtown," said Chief Johnson. Now, he says it is time. After 37-years of service with the department he spends his last day behind the desk as chief because he's retiring. He says through the good and rough times he made it. "God looks after you that's the only thing I can say," said Johnson. Chief Johnson says he wouldn't change a thing. "I have no regrets, I've enjoyed this job," said Johnson. Chief Willie Johnson is the first African-American chief in Greenville. Johnson says he will miss the people he worked with and met in the community over the years, but he'll still be around.